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AND China Overland Trade Report.

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BIRTH.

On the 2nd August, at 9, Belilios Terrace, the wife of DUNCAN CLARK, of a son.

MARRIAGE.

On the 20th July, at H.B.M.'s Consulate, Yokohama, WILLIAM GEORGE SMITH, of the Noble's School, Tokyo, to EDITH GREIG, of Dartford, Kent, England.

DEATHS.

At No. 1, Soochow Road, Shanghai, on the 23rd July, 1899, ARTHUR LEWIS COOPER, aged 28 years, dearly beloved and youngest son of the late William Cooper, M.L.C.E., Bombay.

At Wuchow, 24th July, 1899, of typhoid fever, FRITZ, the beloved son of Mr. and Mrs. SCHWEIGER, aged three years.

ARRIVALS OF MAILS.

The French mail of the 3rd June arrived, per M. M. steamer *Ernest Simons*, on the 29th July (29 days); the Canadian mail of the 10th July arrived, per C. P. R. steamer *Empress of China*, on the 1st August (22 days); the American mail of the 6th July arrived, per T. T. K. steamer *Nippon Maru*, on the 2nd August (27 days); and the English mail of the 7th July arrived, per P. & O. steamer *Chusan*, on the 4th August (28 days).

EPITOME OF THE WEEK.

On 2nd August H.E. the Governor visited Taipeh, where he received in audience about three hundred of the District and Sub-District Committeemen of the New Territory.

Prince Henry left Nagasaki on the 23rd July in the *Deutschland* for Kiaochau.

The convicted Un Loong murderers were hanged in Victoria Gaol on the 31st July.

The office of Messrs. Middleton and Smith tea merchants, Yokohama, was destroyed by fire on the night of the 26th July.

We hear that a large German steamer with a quantity of arms and ammunition has arrived at Macao. No doubt the bulk of these goods will eventually find their way into the hands of pirates and banditti.

The following announcement appeared in the *Straits Times* of the 26th July:—The quarantine imposed on arrivals from Penang has been removed, no fresh case of plague having occurred for the last ten days.

The *Bangkok Times* of the 21st July says:—The Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co. Limited, of Hongkong, whose representative has just left Bangkok, has secured the contract for two new gunboats for the Siamese Government.

It will hardly be believed, though it is an actual fact, that the acting British Consul at Hankow seriously and earnestly protested against H.M.S. *Woodlark* being sent into Hunan waters, on account of the hostility she would encounter at the hands of the Hunanese, and he pointed out that he could not be responsible for her safety.—*N. C. Daily News*.

We understand that Mr. Artacho has entered an action for libel against Mr. Howard W. Bray in respect of certain statements made by the latter in a letter addressed by him to Mr. Stead, the editor of the *Review of Reviews*, and published in the June number of that magazine. The letter refers to Aguinaldo and incidentally makes reference to his alleged clemency to Artacho, who is referred to in unfavourable terms.

At Osaka the other day an officious Japanese policeman stopped a jinricksha in which a foreign lady and her little girl were riding and objected to the dress of the child. The little girl, seven years of age, was wearing a light summer frock with short sleeves. The intelligent policeman considered the nudity of the child's arms an infringement of the dress regulations for enforcing the wearing of proper clothing amongst the lower classes. What if this aforesaid intelligent policeman were turned loose in a foreign ball-room!

Tonkin like Hongkong is flooded with Canton ten and twenty cent pieces. The *Avenir* has an article on the subject which it heads "False English money." Our contemporary says that "this money is only Chinese in appearance and is in reality false English money which the English strike at Canton for their greater profit." According to this authority the ten cent piece is worth only six and a half cents. At this rate, for sixty-five cents a good French dollar can be obtained, which explains how it is that the country is flooded with the coins. Seeing that we in Hongkong are fellow sufferers with Tonkin in this matter it is rather unkind of the *Avenir* to attribute the evil to British turpitude. Also our contemporary exaggerates the deficiency in the value of the coins when it says the ten-cent piece is only worth six and a half cents.

The Manila *Comercio* has brought down upon itself the vials of ecclesiastical wrath because it published an announcement of a Protestant meeting and another announcement of a meeting convened for the formation of a Masonic Lodge. The Archbishop has written an admonitory letter to the paper on the subject and the Jesuits have stopped their subscriptions and also the supply of the Observatory notices, though the paper is at liberty to copy the latter, which are publicly exhibited. The editor expresses his intention of appealing to the Pope. What would have happened to the unfortunate man if these occurrences had taken place before the advent of the Americans and while the priests still held undisputed sway in the islands? It is unpleasant to see a useful institution like the Manila Observatory mixed up with such a contemptible business.

Mr. R. B. Moorhead, Commissioner of Customs, in his report on the trade of Hankow for last year, says:—Egret feathers and pheasant skins have been a new venture; 754 catties (value Hk. Tls. 114,236) of the former were shipped during the year. This trade is dependent on the caprices of fashion, and it cannot be looked upon as a stable one. These much-sought-after feathers are developed in the birds only when they are breeding. To obtain them the birds must be killed; it will not take very long, therefore, to exterminate the species, as has practically been done in North and South America. It was a sad sight for sportsmen to see pheasant skins being carried by thousands through the streets in July and August. Large prices induced the country people to catch and kill these birds for the representative of a firm from Paris, who shipped them to France, there to be made up into hats or toques for ladies.

A Peking telegram reports the appointment on the 24th July by special decree of the Shanghai notable Li Cheng-yung to be Chief Commissioner of Mines in the province of Szechuan. This gentleman, says the *N. C. Daily News*, although an unattached Taotai in rank has had bestowed upon him the civil premier button—a remarkable honour—and is well known amongst Chinese for his public spirit and philanthropy, having given within the last few years nearly Tls. 200,000 out of his own pocket towards the relief of famine sufferers in the Yangtze Valley and Shantung province. His last gift was a very large sum to the Famine Fund of North Kiangsu and as no more decorations or rank could properly be given him under his present status of a Taotai, he was called to Peking a short time ago for a special audience before the Empress Dowager who apparently desired to satisfy her curiosity and see what a private individual who could so cheerfully give Tls. 200,000 of his own, without asking for any reward, looked like. It appears, also, from the announcement of the above appointment that the audience proved satisfactory, although it is well known H.E. Li is not at all anxious for an official life. Mr. Pritchard Morgan's syndicate in Szechuan will have doubtless a good deal to do in the future with H.E. Li Cheng-yung, that is, if he does not find some excuse to get out of his unwelcome honour. We may add that H.E. Li is a man of high integrity, alive to needed reforms in China, and will be rather a help to foreigners in Szechuan than otherwise. His civil premier button makes him equal in standing to a Provincial Treasurer.

ITALY'S DESIGNS IN CHINA.

(Daily Press, 3rd August.)

It would appear, by the message sent out by Reuter on the 31st ultimo, that Italian designs in China have been deferred only, not abandoned, as most persons believed. The Italian Government, having presumably got over the rebuff which met their first advances, have concluded to try again. It is noteworthy that of the squadron recently sent out to these waters not a single vessel has been ordered to return to Italy, and now we are told that the cruisers *Vesuvius* and *Carlo Alberto* are being despatched to China to reinforce that squadron. The *Tribuna* also states that the Italian Government intend to secure a settlement of the question. This is to be done by the presentation of demands at an opportune moment with instructions to obtain compliance therewith whatever the attitude of China may be. In other words, an ultimatum is to be presented at some time when China is pressed, and is to be persisted in at all hazards, including a resort to hostilities if necessary. This is frank at any rate. It remains to be seen how far Italy has the support of the great Powers. She has the good wishes and sympathy of Great Britain, but it is doubtful whether that feeling would go beyond the expression of mere good will. One thing is certain. China can now command little support, as she has neither the wish to do justice to those she has wronged nor the power to protect her own subjects or preserve order in her territory. Moreover, she has shown the cloven foot too often of late to English merchants and financiers to engage much sympathy, which would indeed be very much misplaced. If Italy wants a port in China, why, let her have it. Such a port would no doubt become one more centre of energy and enterprise in an empire the Government of which is always secretly struggling to set back the clock. It would no doubt be a free port, and from it new efforts would be made to open up trade with the vast unopened interior of the Central Kingdom. Italy is, and, we think, will always be, England's friend, and the more interests that can be created in the Further East the greater will become the common wish of all Powers to keep the peace. "Let them all come" then. Let Austria follow suit. Let Holland, with her prudent and thrifty sons, come to this end of the old world and acquire a stake. Let the United States found in the Philippines the nucleus of a great and growing commerce, which shall include trade with China. If the French, or the Russians, or the Germans object to other Powers following their example and obtaining a lease of territory, from whence to consolidate their influence and protect their trade, why, they must do so, but they will at most only protest against the step; they will not actively oppose it. Italy has prudently waited until the first outburst of surprised and virtuous indignation at her proposed demand has subsided; she is now preparing to carry her resolve, into effect.

The following notification is published in the *Government Gazette*:—His Excellency the Governor desires to express his warm appreciation of the public spirit shown by the following gentlemen:—Cheesey Duncan, Gershom Stewart, C. H. Gale, P. G. Law, W. Nagel, E. Ralphs, who offered their services in connection with the suppression of the plague, which it is happily now unnecessary to accept owing to the decrease of the epidemic.

THE ADMINISTRATION OF WEIHAIWEI.

(Daily Press, 2nd August.)

That latest acquired of Great Britain's colonies, Weihaiwei, seems to be suffering, like the Kowloon New Territory from a want of energy and enterprise in the administration. The fault, as in our own case, lies originally and mainly with the home Government, who will not allow a loan to be issued for the development of the Kowloon Territory, and who, at Weihaiwei, seem to restrict the occupation of the place as much as possible to the establishment of a garrison on the island of Luikungtao. A vote has been granted by Parliament for the maintenance of a small garrison and for the construction of such fortifications as appear to be absolutely necessary, but beyond this British interest in this new Ultima Thule of the Empire seems to languish. There is not even a British Post Office in the colony, and the residents are almost entirely dependent upon the Chinese Imperial Post, which carries the bulk of its correspondence. Surely there might be a branch of the Hongkong Post Office established in this new possession if it is impracticable to open a local office. Then, as to means of communication until some enterprising steamship Company can be got to call at Weihaiwei, the storeship *Humber* might be sent there with a certain amount of regularity, and carry the mails on from Hongkong and back again. Efforts should also be made to open up some trade in produce, and this surely might be accomplished even if it were done partly at the expense of Chefoo. As a free port Weihaiwei should possess several advantages over the adjacent Treaty Port, and if once ships can be got to call there it should not be so very difficult to attract a measure of the Shantung export trade thither. The beginnings of trade in Hongkong were very insignificant, and it was years before the Colony really began to flourish. Indeed, Mr. MONTGOMERY MARTIN made a report upon its prospects in most lugubrious vein, and ended up by strongly recommending the abandonment of the island altogether. It is fortunate that this advice, most earnestly given, was not accepted. The position of Weihaiwei, from a commercial point of view, cannot be compared to that of Hongkong, but there is no reason to doubt that, if fair play be given to it, the northern port may in time attract to itself some trade. This can never happen, however, unless and until the port is brought into regular communication with the rest of the world. If, for instance, the P. and O. steamers carrying the mails to Japan could be subsidised to call in at Weihaiwei with mails, in all probability cargo would soon follow. Let communication only be first established and we believe that trade would quickly succeed. It will be argued, no doubt, by the British Government that this subsidy would not pay; that the results would be so small that it would not be worth while; but is this really the fact? Other nations find that it pays to subsidise steamship lines to open communications where they do not exist, and why should it not prove ultimately remunerative. At present, the British Government is not in the mood to sow seed that another administration may reap the harvest, which is a pity. It is, of course, quite possible that Lord SALISBURY and Mr. CHAMBERLAIN may not feel sufficiently clear as to the future of Weihaiwei, that they may still be in doubt as to the permanence of the British occupation of the stronghold so lately vacated by the Japa-

nese. But the chances seem altogether against its early surrender, and even if it were eventually again given up to China or exchanged with some Power for a more convenient port, there would be no harm in seeking to develop its capabilities and promote its welfare. We hope therefore that before long regular means of communication will be established with Weihaiwei, that it will have its own military government, on the plan of Gibraltar, and including Post Office, Treasury, and Land Office, with a bustling and busy commercial community springing up under the shadow of its fortifications.

MR. FRANCIS AND BRITISH RIGHTS OVER THE NEW TERRITORY.

(Daily Press, 29th July.)

The arguments advanced by Mr. J. J. FRANCIS, Q.C., in his petition praying for the reprieve of the prisoners now lying under sentence of death for a murder committed in the New Territory will be read with much astonishment. That the learned gentleman should have been able to give an appearance of plausibility to the case he advances says much for his ingenuity, but that he should be taken in by his own casuistry or expect the Government or the public to be convinced thereby is most extraordinary. His contention is that English law and the Ordinances of Hongkong do not run and cannot be made to run in the New Territory, that the territory remains Chinese, that the inhabitants are still Chinese subjects, that if a foreigner committed a crime there he would be subject only to his own authorities and would have to be tried under the extraterritoriality system prevailing in China by agreement with the Treaty Powers, and that British jurisdiction is "limited to the necessities of defence and protection,"—none of which propositions, we think, will commend themselves to the acceptance of the intelligent reader. The intention of both Great Britain and China was that in the ceded territory British jurisdiction should completely supplant Chinese, a reservation (since set aside) being made only with respect to Kowloon city. But Mr. FRANCIS says the word "jurisdiction" is used in the sense of administering not making laws. The learned gentleman bases his contention on an inference from the following provision of the agreement, namely, that "within the city of Kowloon the Chinese officials now stationed there shall continue to exercise jurisdiction." The word "jurisdiction," he says, "does not necessarily imply the power to make or alter laws. It is far more frequently applied in the more limited sense of administering the law, and that the nature of the arrangement made between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the Empire of China for a lease instead of a concession necessitates the more restrained signification." As to the provision with reference to Kowloon city, the correct inference to be drawn therefrom is that the jurisdiction retained by the Chinese officials covered the right of making or altering the laws, not merely the right of administering them, for it cannot be supposed that the intention was to prohibit all amendment of the laws for a period of ninety-nine years however much the circumstances might change during that period. As to "the nature of the arrangement made between Her Majesty's Government and the Government of the Emperor of China," that the jurisdiction conferred upon Her Majesty was not to

be "limited to the necessities of defence and protection" appears from the fact that the "limits of British territory" are enlarged to the extent indicated on the map attached to the agreement, from which it follows that the territory in question becomes British, and in British territory British law must prevail. The "sole jurisdiction" conferred upon Great Britain must therefore be held to include the right of making or altering laws as well as the right of administration. It is furthermore agreed that "there will be no expatriation or expulsion of the inhabitants of the district," a point upon which it would have been unnecessary for China to ask for any assurance had it been the understanding between the parties that the New Territory should be still under territorial sovereignty of the Emperor of China and the inhabitants thereof still Chinese subjects. The fact that the territory is ceded only "under lease" gives an appearance of plausibility to some of Mr. FRANCIS's arguments, but no one is better aware than the learned gentleman himself of the bearing of legal fictions. It, however, the use of the term "lease" should cause any doubt, the legal maxim must be applied, *interpretatio talis in ambiguis semper fienda est ut evitetur inconveniens et absurdum*. As to another point in the petition, we would suggest to Mr. FRANCIS that he has no occasion to distress himself concerning the landed interests of Her Majesty's new subjects. Those interests will no doubt be as well protected as have been the corresponding interests of the natives of the island of Hongkong. Finally, murder is punishable by death under Chinese law as well as under English law, so that even if it were held that Chinese law prevailed and that British jurisdiction was limited to the administration of the law the case of the Un Loong murderers would not be affected thereby; their lives would still be forfeit.

THE CUSTOMS QUESTION AT TSINTAU AND HONGKONG.

(Daily Press, 31st July.)

We publish to-day a summary of an interesting article which appears in the last issue of the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* on the Chinese Customs question at Tsintau. The account that appeared a short time ago of the proceedings which attended the inauguration of the Custom-house, including a flag-hoisting ceremony, caused considerable astonishment, and the German authorities themselves appear to have since arrived at the conclusion that the ceremony was an act of folly. As was remarked in a recent article in this column on the Customs question in relation to Hongkong, "whatever assistance may be given to the Chinese Government in protecting its revenue should be given without creating any mistaken impression as to where the sovereignty lies." The flag-hoisting ceremony at Tsintau was calculated to create such a mistaken impression, and for that reason must be considered a grave mistake. But if the German authorities made a mistake on that point, we think they have adopted a sound policy in making arrangements with the Chinese Customs whereby trade can be carried on between German and Chinese territory with the least possible delay, expense, or inconvenience, the freedom of the port being at the same time carefully preserved. That some arrangement with the Customs is necessary and inevitable is proved by the experience of Hongkong, where the so-called blockade has given rise to much irritation. To relieve the position

the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce has recommended the establishment of bonded warehouses for opium, and it is understood the recommendation will shortly be carried into effect. It was at one time supposed that with the establishment of these proposed bonded warehouses the Customs agency maintained in the colony might reasonably be invited to withdraw, but consideration has shown that such a course would not be feasible, as appears from General BLACK's despatches on the subject. General BLACK was believed to be a staunch opponent of the maintenance of any Chinese Customs establishment in Hongkong, and, we have reason to believe, had privately expressed himself in terms that justified that belief. When, however, it fell to his lot to deal with the question as Acting Governor, to disregard rhodomontade in the ultra-patriotic key and look at the question from a plain common-sense business standpoint, he found that the Customs agency was a necessity, not only from the Chinese point of view, with which he had nothing to do, but from the point of view of Hongkong's commercial interests. His Excellency recommended therefore that the Chinese Government should be permitted to have an agency in the colony of a purely mercantile character for the purpose of issuing opium certificates. Subsequently His Excellency varied his recommendation somewhat and suggested that the Harbour Master should send every evening to the Customs a return of all opium shipped and whither bound, upon which the Customs could arrange for the collection of duty upon this amount of opium at the port of destination. Both schemes imply a recognition of the Customs Service and a certain amount of co-operation therewith. It is true General BLACK also recommended that the Customs should have nothing to do with any other kind of goods than opium, but as to that we should say that if we are to have the Customs at all it would be well to make the fullest use possible of them for the facilitation of trade in articles of all descriptions. There is a popular superstition that the function of the Customs is to "prey" upon the trade of the colony, but that of course is mere nonsense when it is the Foreign and not the Native Customs that are in question. Their function is to collect the legitimate duty on imports into China and exports from that country, and any arrangement that can be effected with them whereby that duty may be collected without what is termed a blockade of Hongkong must necessarily be to the interests of the colony. The freedom of the port is the sheet anchor of Hongkong's prosperity, but regulations to prevent the abuse of that freedom cannot be regarded as diminishing or destroying it. The *China Mail* of Friday last noted that "One effect of the removal of the Customs cruisers from the waters of Capsumoon is the increased endeavours to export from the Colony arms and ammunition," and in its issue of Saturday it has a judicious article on the same subject in which it points out "the important connection between this movement of arms and the recrudescence of piracy in the waters of the Colony and the waterways of the neighbouring Province of Kwangtung," and states that "the rebels, thieves and pirates are being supplied with firearms and ammunition from Hongkong, so that Hongkong is contributing to kill its own trade with the interior." Our contemporary does not make these observations in connection with the Customs question, but the inference may fairly be

drawn therefrom that if co-operation with the Customs would restrict the smuggling of arms such co-operation would be to the interest of the colony.

THE GOVERNOR AT TAIPOHU.

(Daily Press, 4th August.)

The very interesting ceremony which took place at Taipohu on Wednesday possesses some special significance coming as it did so soon after the publication of Mr. J. J. FRANCIS's petition impugning British sovereignty over the New Territory and placing narrow limits on the administrative authority conferred upon Her Majesty by the agreement with the Chinese Government. It is not likely that many of the inhabitants of the district have read Mr. FRANCIS's petition or that they would be able to follow his arguments if they have, but it may be noted that the inhabitants themselves, in the address presented to the Governor, declared themselves "proud indeed to be the subjects of such a benevolent sovereign as Her Majesty the Queen." The inhabitants therefore recognise that they owe allegiance to Her Majesty, and any attempt to disturb them in their belief, whether made by Mr. FRANCIS or by native agitators, is to be severely deprecated.

H.E. the Governor made some remarks upon the land question, informing the people that they must register their titles; that questions of disputed ownership would be decided according to justice, that Crown rent would be payable, and that if any person had been induced to sell his land at a low value by false representations being made to him as to the intentions of the British Government, the sale would not be accepted as valid. This latter announcement may or may not have been called for. Reports have been in circulation as to sharp practice on the part of land speculators, but whether those reports have any foundation of truth remains to be seen. Some of the statements made are incredible on the face of them, because the Chinese, even the most ignorant peasantry, understand the rights of property, and it is very unlikely that they would be taken in by tales they were about to be dispossessed without compensation. They are, moreover, sufficiently near to Hongkong, and sufficiently acquainted with the system prevailing here, to know that no such injustice could be perpetrated by the British Government. If, however, contrary to probability, some persons have been deceived by false representations, it would be right that the Government should, upon clear proof of the misrepresentation, decline to recognise the transaction.

THE SECRETARY OF STATES DESPATCH ON THE KOWLOON DISTURBANCES.

(Daily Press, 31st July.)

A despatch from the Secretary of State referring to the Kowloon disturbances is published in the *Gazette*. It is to be hoped the Governor's despatch with its enclosures, acknowledged in the first paragraph of the Secretary of State's despatch, will also be made public, either by laying it on the table of the Legislative Council or otherwise. As the matter stands at present the opinion of the public will be, we think, either that the case has not been accurately represented or that the Secretary of State has formed an erroneous judgment thereon, so far as the Governor and the Colonial Secretary are concerned. When the disturbance broke out no doubt both of these high officials did the best they could, but where does the fault lie for the disturbance

ever having been allowed to occur? The decision of the Secretary of State might more appropriately have followed the familiar lines of the finding of a Marine Court of Inquiry and been to the effect that the casualty was due to neglect and errors of judgment on the part of the master and first mate, in this case the Governor and Colonial Secretary, but that in view of their commendable efforts to minimise the effects when the casualty occurred the case would be sufficiently met by a reprimand and caution. There is, however, an old saying that it is better to be born lucky than rich, and Sir HENRY BLAKE and Mr. STEWART LOCKART appear to be striking examples of its truth.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK'S NOTE ISSUE.

(Daily Press, 2nd August.)

In moving the renewal for a further period of one year of the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Excess Note Issue Bill in the Legislative Council on Monday the Hon. C. P. CHATER said there was absolutely no benefit to the Bank by the passing of this Bill, on the contrary it entailed expense and trouble to the Bank and a good deal of responsibility, but it was done for the benefit of the colony and to help trade and commerce. And the colony and trade and commerce are very much indebted to the Bank. It may be remembered that the Secretary of State objected to the Bank issuing notes in excess of the amount it was legally entitled to and the result was that in the early part of last year there was a considerable contraction of the issue, which was equivalent to a contraction of the currency, for bank notes have almost entirely superseded silver as the circulating medium. In July, 1898, the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank's note issue in Hongkong had fallen to a trifle over five millions. A Bill was then passed authorising that institution to issue notes in excess of its paid-up capital against a silver deposit dollar for dollar, and the result has been that last month the amount in circulation reached almost eight millions. This large addition to our local currency has been of almost incalculable advantage to the public, for it has greatly facilitated trade and commerce and contributed to the easier tone of the money market that now prevails.

OUR NEW TERRITORY.

INTERESTING SCENE AT TAIPOHU

HIS EXCELLENCY AND THE LAND SHARPERS.

HOW THEY ARE TO BE CHECKMATED.

An interesting scene, and one which will long be remembered in the New Territory, was witnessed at Taipohu on Wednesday, when His Excellency the Governor (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.) met some 300 of the elders and gentry who have been appointed to co-operate with the Government in regulating the local affairs of the surrounding villages, and addressed them on the duties they are expected to discharge now that they have become British subjects.

At the meeting of the Legislative Council on Monday His Excellency invited the members and the representatives of the press to accompany him, but the invitation—probably on account of the short notice—was not largely accepted, only three members of the Legislative body being present—the Hon. E. R. Bellios, G.M.G., the Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), and the Hon. R. Murray Rum-

sey (Harbour Master). These embarked in the *Wingfu* at Murray Pier at about 7 o'clock in the morning, together with Mr. Bruce Shepherd (Official Receiver), Mr. F. A. Blake (the Governor's brother), Mr. R. E. Bellios, Mrs. Ormsby, and two press representatives, and after an exceedingly pleasant run, the weather being charming, reached Taipohu at half-past eleven.

It was seen at once that every preparation had been made for the reception of the Governor, whose appearance was eagerly awaited by the elders and a large number of villagers. No one could avoid being struck with the change which has come over the district in less than four short months. It was only in April that what threatened to become a not inconsiderable rebellion broke out. Now the famous Flagstaff Hill, on which Captain Superintendent May and his men fought for their lives on the afternoon of Saturday, April 15th, has its summit crowned with an uncompleted building which is to serve as the official quarters. On another hill close by is a neat little mat-shed which has been put up for the accommodation of His Excellency when he chooses to spend a day or two in the neighbourhood; and on adjoining eminences are a large mat-shed, doing duty as the official quarters and a small one in which the police are ensconced. Good paths from the shore to the erections have been made and also a long temporary pier.

His Excellency and his party, which included Lady Blake and Miss Blake, the Countess of Huntingdon, Commodore Powell, Mrs. and Miss Powell, and Viscount Suirdale, came in H.M.S. *Pigmy* their arrival, at about 12 o'clock, being heralded by the letting off of crackers innumerable and the quaint music of a couple of Chinese bands, whose musical instruments, judging from the noise they made, consisted chiefly of particularly sonorous gongs. In the meantime the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart (Colonial Secretary), in full uniform, descended from the official quarters to a pavilion below, in front of which were the elders and about 60 numbers of the Hongkong Regiment. Here he awaited His Excellency, whom the troops received with a Royal Salute. On His Excellency taking his seat the elders respectfully "kowtowed."

HIS EXCELLENCY (the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart translating) then said—Now that this territory has been divided into districts and the sub-district committeemen have been selected from the elders and gentry I wish to meet you and to explain to you the principles upon which the government of this portion of the colony of Hongkong will be conducted. I desire that you who have been officially appointed shall co-operate with the Government in regulating the local affairs of your villages so that the people shall enjoy security and that there shall be no disorder. The Government has appointed officials who will advise you as to sanitary improvements in the villages so that the health of the people may be preserved, for the Queen of England wishes that all Her Majesty's subjects shall be healthy and prosperous. In giving you the position of Committeemen I rely upon you to discharge your duties in a faithful and upright manner and would call your attention to the fact that one of our most stringent laws is that if as much as one cash is taken from the people except the rates and taxes levied under authority the person extorting it will be rigorously punished by fine and imprisonment and be dismissed in disgrace from his position. I wish to interfere as little as possible with your good customs, but there is one principle of British law that must be observed. All punishment for injuries must be inflicted by the appointed authority under the law. Therefore in case of injury the proper authority must be appealed to and the punishment must not be undertaken by private individuals. The time has now come when all occupiers of land must register their titles with the Land Officer. When application is made giving the exact area of land occupied, a notice will be posted in the village so that if another claims the land he can apply to the Land Officer, when the claims will be considered by the Land Court. No certificate of registration will be issued until the Crown rent has been paid. There should be no delay in registering your titles. The occupier will, in the absence

of another claimant, be accepted as owner but if the person in occupation is decided not to be the proper owner the amount paid by him will be returned, and the rent will be collected from the person decided to be the lawful owner. A few days ago some ill advised people assembled near Un Long and behaved in a riotous manner, assaulting a party who were examining certain lands. I warn you against such unlawful proceedings, as this was taking the law into their own hands. They should, if they objected, have applied to the Land Officer, who would have examined into the matter and decided upon their objections. Under the powers given to me by the law I could have placed a station of Police upon that land and compelled the villagers who created the disturbance to pay the entire cost of building the station and paying the Police. But I have determined not to do so on this first offence but to warn the people through you that such illegal rioting will be severely punished in future. The elders of a village can always prevent such disorder by giving timely information to the Police. If they do not prevent it, then they and the villagers will be held responsible. All persons of whatever nation must be free to move about without danger of molestation. You must understand from what I have said that clan fights cannot be allowed. The law is strong enough to protect the rights of every man, and must be appealed to in cases of dispute that cannot be settled by the local committees. I am sorry to find that robberies by armed gangs have been frequent, and against such violence you have hitherto not been adequately protected. I have established Police Stations in different parts of the territory for the purpose of preventing such robberies and protecting your lives and property. Since the territory was taken over three months ago many of those robbers have been arrested, the stolen property has been restored to the owners, and a large number of the robbers are now in gaol undergoing sentences of imprisonment for five and seven years. I am determined that such robberies shall be put down and that law abiding and peaceable people shall enjoy security that has hitherto been denied them. You have all heard of the cruel murders of innocent men that took place at Un Loong in April last. For the murder of one of those men two of the principals in that brutal crime after a fair and patient trial have paid the penalty with their lives. I hope that if any bad characters remain in the territory they will take warning and cease from evil ways. I have directed that the law against gambling shall be rigidly enforced. The Chinese law against gambling is very strong, but the officials have neglected it. In British territory all laws must be equally respected. You have seen by my proclamation the amount of crown rent that has been decided upon as the land rent for the present. In considering what taxes are to be levied on you, you must remember that all the money paid by you to the Government is money that is paid for your protection and for the improvement and development of your property. The money paid for public works is paid to your own labourers for their labour and comes to the traders in the ordinary course of business. Up to the present over ten thousand dollars have been paid in wages to the working people of this district and now that gambling has been stopped this money will be spent in the purchase of land for farms or of food and clothing from the shops, while the main road from Kowloon to Taipo will enable the people to send in their produce to market in any weather. There will be a license tax on all business houses, but you have been relieved from the payment of all customs duties and monopolies that raised the price of everything that you consumed. Do not object to strangers coming to the district. They will all bring money and increase the wealth and comfort of the people. I know that many people from this district have travelled to other countries. They must have seen there how capital employs labour and produces wealth. With the introduction of fresh capital into this district that I hope to see one day some who are now driven to evil courses for want of occupation will find within their reach employment that will enable them to live respectable lives. I have appointed you to the responsible position of committeemen because you have been recommended to me

by your villagers. Do not forget that your responsibility is very real, as I look to you to preserve the peace and good order of your villages, and to report to the authorities all bad characters and persons who endeavour to stir up strife. With the support of the Sub-district Committees and the villagers I look for the firm establishment of internal peace and prosperity, and I undertake that you shall be fully protected by the Government from any interference from without. I wished to add a few more words on the subject of land. It has been reported to me that as soon as the Convention between the Emperor of China and the Queen of Great Britain was signed certain people were induced to sell their lands at a low value by being told that the British Government would take possession of the land without payment when they came into the territory. I take this opportunity of telling you, the elders and gentry of all the villages that if any man has been induced to sell his land by these false misrepresentations and he is not satisfied, he can give notice to the Land Officer, who will not register the title until the real question at issue has been looked into and decided. I have mentioned all this before by proclamation, but I wish to emphasise it more strongly now that I see the gentry and elders before me, as I am determined that if any man has been improperly induced to give his land away under its value I won't accept the sale as valid.

A literary man of the name of TANG YUI SHAN then stepped forward, and falling on his knees commenced to read an address of welcome. His Excellency interrupting him by telling him to read it standing. The following is a rough translation of the address:—

Your Excellency, your subject, on behalf of the Committeemen present and the people of the Districts and sub-districts whom they represent, thanks Your Excellency for honouring us with a visit. We have eagerly looked forward to Your Excellency's coming to-day, which marks a new era in the history of this territory. This visit will infuse into the country and the people a new life and spirit and will be followed by peace, prosperity, and happiness. We know that Your Excellency will treat us justly, considerately, and impartially. We congratulate ourselves on our good fortune in having placed over us such a kind Governor, and proud indeed are we to be the subjects of such a benevolent sovereign as Her Majesty Queen Victoria. We pray that Your Excellency will, when memorialising the Throne, tender to Her Majesty our humble submission and our profound feelings of loyalty."

At the back of the pavilion was a tablet, containing an inscription in gold. This Mr. TANG YUI SHAN asked His Excellency to accept as a slight token of respect.

His EXCELLENCY—Thanks very much. I accept with pleasure.

The following is a rough translation of the inscription:—

"To His Excellency the Governor.
All the inhabitants of the territory look up to you with reverence and hope."

In the summer of the twenty-fourth year of the reign of His Imperial Chinese Majesty (1893) it was decreed that the territory in the neighbourhood of Kowloon in the Sunon District should be leased to Her Majesty the Queen of Great Britain.

At the beginning of the present year, Sir Henry Blake was appointed by Her Majesty the Queen, Governor of Hongkong and its Dependencies.

It is well known to all that since Hongkong became a British Colony and since the establishment at Shanghai of a British Settlement, these two places have become the abodes of peace and prosperity, and their inhabitants are filled with songs of praise. This is due to the people residing there having enjoyed to the full the great benefits of a just Government which has been able to transform places formerly insignificant into a land of happiness.

"Happy is the lot which has now fallen to the Kowloon territory, the inhabitants of which are fortunate indeed to have been born in such a place and to be living at such a time."

"Henceforth we shall dwell in our homes enjoying peace and quiet and free from all care and anxiety under the protection of a good and just government."

"Such happiness has been the hope and dream of our lives and joyful indeed are we that at last our wish is realised."

"The people of this territory humbly pray that Your Excellency will condescend to accept this Tablet as a slight mark of their feelings of respect and gratitude."

"Respectfully presented by the inhabitants of the Eastern part of the Territory."

His EXCELLENCY—I am very glad to meet the elders. I invite them all to go to the mat-shed, where tea and cakes are provided for them. I wish them every happiness in the future.

There was no mistaking the fact that this little speech of the Governor was appreciated even more than his other one.

His Excellency entertained the Europeans to tiffin in the official quarters, where the health of Her Most Gracious Majesty the Queen was loyally drunk.

The party then broke up, got aboard, and steamed for home, which was reached after another pleasant run.

On Friday His Excellency goes to Pingsan to meet few more elders there.

SUPREME COURT.

28th July.

CRIMINAL SESSIONS.

BEFORE HIS HONOUR W. MEIGH GOODMAN (ACTING CHIEF JUSTICE),
AND A SPECIAL JURY.

THE UN LOONG MURDER CASE.

His Lordship addressing the jury, said:—Gentlemen, I am sorry to say that this morning I have received a medical certificate from Dr. Hartigan, which I will read to you. It says, "I certify that Mr. Francis, Q.C., is still very weak and is now suffering from fever. It is quite impossible for him to go down to the court. I do not expect he will be able to resume his duties before Monday next." You see in his certificate yesterday Dr. Hartigan said, "He will in all probability be able to resume his duties to-morrow." Therefore we had hoped Mr. Francis would have been able to be here to-day, and in the face of this certificate the court is placed in a very difficult position. This is not an ordinary case of misdemeanour; it is a case of murder, and it is very necessary that the jury should have the evidence fresh in their minds. At the same time I am very anxious that the prisoners should not suffer in any way from the unfortunate illness of their counsel. We of course all sympathise very much with Mr. Francis. At the same time it is absolutely essential that the course of criminal justice should go on. If one counsel cannot do a case it is essential some other counsel should be appointed to do the case. Is Mr. Brutton here?

Mr. Brutton (who instructed Mr. Francis) made his presence known.

His Lordship—Mr. Brutton, I should strongly recommend you to at once employ a junior counsel, so that if Mr. Francis is unable to be here on Monday that gentleman may take his place.

Mr. Brutton—You see the difficulty we are in. If a junior counsel were employed he would have to be paid a fee.

His Lordship—Of course I cannot go in to details, Mr. Brutton. I can only say this, that the court will go on with the case on Monday. If there is no counsel for the prisoners it will be their misfortune.

Mr. Brutton said there was a case at home in which in the absence of counsel the solicitor was allowed to appear. Would his Lordship give him permission to appear?

His Lordship said certainly not. He could not hear Mr. Brutton. He was only speaking to Mr. Brutton as to whether it would not be in the interests of his clients to engage junior counsel. A case of murder could not be postponed. They would have to go on on Monday.

Mr. Brutton was again proceeding to refer to the case in which a solicitor was allowed to appear in the absence of counsel, when

His Lordship said—There are other counsel beside Mr. Francis. If Mr. Francis cannot take the case other counsel must. The case must be tried. The case must go on on Monday, and it will be for you to consider in the interests

of your clients what course to adopt. If Mr. Francis cannot be here you had better get some one else to come.

The Court adjourned until Monday.

31st July.

Mr. Slade—In this case I now appear instead of my learned friend Mr. Francis, who, I regret to say, is still very ill.

His Lordship—I had certainly hoped that after three separate adjournments of this case the learned counsel for the prisoners would be sufficiently recovered to be able to appear here and continue his zealous defence of the prisoners. As, however, this is not the case, I am glad that the prisoners will have the advantage of being defended by Mr. Slade, who in his recent very able defence of the two other men who were charged with a like offence committed at the same time and place there is no doubt acquired considerable knowledge of the circumstances under which this crime is alleged to have been committed. Although I am sorry Mr. Francis is not able to come here, and we all sympathise with him very much, I am afraid it is essential in the interests of justice that a murder case should no longer be postponed.

The evidence for the prosecution was then continued.

1st August.

Towards noon the case for the prosecution was closed.

Mr. Slade, in addressing the jury for the defence, put in a proclamation in which a reward of \$25 was offered for the arrest of deceased, who it was alleged had been guilty of several robberies. Consequently when defendant was found at Ah Chuen the elders seized him, and he was sent under arrest to Un Loong. First prisoner went to Un Loong at about four o'clock in the afternoon, deceased having been arrested in the morning, and got back to his house at about half-past five, and while outside the walled town saw the people who had been fighting the British return. He went to Un Loong again at about eight o'clock, and remained until ten, and at eleven o'clock he went out, telling his wife he was going to a certain opium diwan for a smoke before going to bed. He had no evidence to show what he did after that.

Evidence for the defence was then called.
The case is still proceeding.

August 3rd.

IN SUMMARY JURISDICTION.

BEFORE MR. JUSTICE WISE
(PUISNE JUDGE.)

A RATING APPEAL.

This was an appeal of the Hongkong Land Investment and Agency Co., Limited, against the interim assessment, dated 30th June, 1899, of the offices and dwelling on Marine Lot No. 278, in Connaught road (New Praya Central) on the following grounds:—(1) That the said tenement is valued beyond its rateable value, the value of certain machinery upon or in the said tenement having been included in the said rateable value, contrary to the provisions of Ordinance No. 15 of 1888, entitled the Rating Ordinance; (2) that the said tenement is valued beyond its rateable value on the date on which such valuation was made (June 30th, 1899), because on the said date certain portions of the said building were unfinished and incapable of beneficial occupation.

Mr. Hastings appeared for the appellants, and Mr. Bowley (Crown Solicitor) for the assessors Mr. A. Chapman.

Mr. Hastings, for the appellants, stated that the premises had been assessed at an annual rateable value of \$17,830, and the appellants contended that this was excessive, because the value of certain machinery upon the premises had been included. The machinery in question consisted of two lifts, which ran to all the floors and were driven by complicated electrical machinery consisting of an electric motor which revolves a drum on which a wire rope is coiled. The power was supplied by the Electric Company and there were the usual sheaves and pulleys at the top and bottom, over which the rope runs. The law of this colony with regard to the rating of

machinery was different from the law at home, as at home machinery was usually held to be rateable, but here it was specially exempted from assessment under the Rating Ordinance. It was quite clear that the lifts and the motors, etc., connected therewith were machinery and it was also clear that the assessor in making his valuation had not deducted the value of the machinery, but had assessed the value of the tenement as enhanced by the value of the machinery contained therein. His contention was that as the lifts were not rateable they should be entirely left out of consideration in making the valuation and that the building should be valued as though lifts were non-existent or were closed up. The question would then be what rental a tenant or tenants would give for the property as it stood without the lifts. Of course with regard to the ground and first floor the question of the lift would not make so much difference in the rental, but with regard to the second, third, and especially the fourth floor, in the absence of lifts the rental would be materially decreased. The first and portion of the ground floor were let to Messrs. Arnhold, Karberg & Co. at \$465 per month; the second floor to Messrs. Carlowitz & Co. at \$440; half the third floor to the Wharf and Godown Co. for \$150 and the other half to Dr. Jordan at \$150 also; and the fourth floor to Mr. A. H. Rennie as a residence at \$320 per month; and in each case the agreement was that the tenant should have the use of the lifts in common with the other tenants. In the absence of the lifts it was estimated that the letting value of the premises would be reduced to about \$11,000 per annum. A further point was that on the 30th June, the date of the assessment, the buildings were still in an unfinished state. The assessment therefore was premature, as it included several portions of the building which were incapable of occupation on that date. The tenants paid the rates and the company would derive no benefit from the appeal, which was undertaken on behalf of the tenants.

Mr. Shelton Hooper, secretary for the appellants, said he was formerly in the Government service as an assessor. He would estimate the assessment on the building when completed at \$10,820.

Mr. A. H. Rennie, who has entered into an agreement for premises on the fourth floor of the building, said he was shown a plan of the premises last year showing the lifts. It was a portion of his agreement that he should have the use of the lifts.

Mr. Turner, architect and surveyor, gave evidence of the machinery of the lifts, and the condition of the building.

The appellants' case was closed at tiffin time. The further hearing was adjourned till Monday as Mr. Bowley had a case at the Magistrate's Court in the afternoon.

HONGKONG LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL.

On Monday afternoon a meeting of the Hong Kong Legislative Council was held in the Council Chamber at the Government Offices, there being present:—

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR (Sir Henry Blake, G.C.M.G.).

The Hon. J. H. STEWART LOCKHART (Colonial Secretary).

Hon. H. E. POLLOCK (Acting Attorney-General).

Hon. B. MURRAY RUMSEY (Harbour Master).

Hon. F. H. MAY, C.M.G. (Captain Superintendent of Police).

Hon. A. M. THOMSON (Colonial Treasurer).

Hon. B. D. ORMSBY (Director of Public Works).

Hon. C. P. CHATER, C.M.G.

Hon. Dr. HO KAI.

Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD.

Hon. E. R. BELLIOS, C.M.G.

Hon. WAI A YUK.

Mr. J. G. T. BUCKLE (Clerk of Councils).

PETITION.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—Your Excellency, I have been asked by the solicitors of certain dealers in arms to present a petition for

the consideration of this Council which I now lay on the table. I understand that a copy of it was forwarded to the Government some two or three weeks ago.

QUESTIONS.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I beg to give notice that at the next meeting of the Council I will ask the following question:—

Will the Government lay upon the table copy of Despatch No. 107 of 28th April last to the Secretary of State for the Colonies, and its enclosures, regarding the recent disturbances in connection with the taking over of the new territory leased by China to Great Britain by the June Convention of last year and any other Despatches from the Colonial Government to the Home Authorities bearing on the subject?"

The Hon. E. R. BELLIOS—I beg to give notice of the following question which I will put at the next meeting of the Legislative Council:—

"Referring to the report by the Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart on the Kowloon Extension to the Colony, will the Government state what is the source of the information referred to in paragraph 1 under head of Revenue, page 13 of the Blue Book, stating:—'But from information derived from another source it is estimated that the annual revenue of that portion of the Sun On District contained within the leased area amounts to \$160,000, or, say, £16,000,' this being an increase of more than a lakh of dollars on the estimate given by the Sun On District Magistrate for the territory in question?"

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—May I suggest that in giving notice of questions honourable members should to save time merely hand in their notices?

PAPEERS.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table the report of the Inspector of Schools for 1898; reports on the Hongkong Volunteer Corps; report of the Principal Civil Medical Officer for 1898; the Secretary of State's despatch respecting the recent disturbances in connection with the taking over of the New Territory; and the report on the assessment for 1899-1900.

FINANCIAL.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY laid on the table financial minutes Nos. 9 to 10 and proposed that they be referred to the Finance Committee.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded and the motion was carried.

THE HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANK'S NOTE ISSUE.

The Hon. C. P. CHATER—Your Excellency, I have the honour to move the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to continue the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Ordinance, 1899. I am aware, sir, that it is unusual to speak when moving the first reading of a Bill, but as it is my intention, with your Excellency's permission, and if honourable members have no objection, to pass this Bill through the various stages to-day, a few explanatory words at the present moment may not be inappropriate. It will probably be in the recollection of honourable members that about this time last year a Bill was introduced into this Council authorising the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation to issue notes in excess of its paid-up capital on the condition that the Bank should deposit dollar for dollar for the excess issue. This condition, I may mention to Your Excellency, was proposed by the Bank itself and received the sanction of the Right Honourable the Secretary of State and a Bill was passed. The period this privilege was to extend was fixed for twelve months from the 31st July, 1898. Later on, sometime about the beginning of the present year, the Secretary of State sent out instructions to introduce another Bill into the Council repealing this Bill, namely No. 6 of 1898, and, bringing forward the Bill No. 1 of 1899 authorising the Bank to issue notes in excess of its paid-up capital on the same terms and conditions as before, with one or two additional conditions, and the period for which this privilege was granted was fixed for a year from the 31st July, 1898. The period was not altered. Consequently it expires to-day. The object of the present Bill is to allow the Bank to continue issuing these notes in excess of its paid-up capital on the same terms and conditions as in No. 1 of 1899 for a further period of 12 months

from this date. Honourable members will no doubt have observed that there is absolutely no benefit to the Bank by the passing of this Bill; on the contrary it entails expense and trouble to the Bank and a good deal of responsibility, but it is done for the benefit of this colony and to help trade and commerce. Therefore I have no doubt honourable members will consent to the Bill going through the first second and third reading to-day. With these remarks I beg to move the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to continue the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Ordinance, 1899.

The COLONIAL TREASURER seconded, and the motion was carried.

The Standing Orders having been suspended to allow of the Bill passing through all its stages, the second reading was carried, after which the Council went into committee to consider the Bill clause by clause.

On the Council resuming the Bill was read a third time and passed.

THE PROTECTION OF WOMEN AND GIRLS.

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—I beg to move the first reading of a Bill entitled an Ordinance to amend the Protection of Women and Girls Ordinance, 1897.

The COLONIAL SECRETARY seconded.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—If I may make a suggestion in connection with this Bill, I observe that the Singapore Legislative Council have appointed a committee to enquire into the matter. If we could be supplied with copies of the committee's report we should be assisted in arriving at a conclusion.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—If we had the report there would of course be no objection to members being supplied with copies, but we have had their Bill and we know the whole question pretty well now. I do not think I would advise that this Bill should be delayed for the purpose of getting the report of the Singapore Committee. I will write to Singapore, and if we obtain copies before the next meeting of the Council honourable members will be supplied with them.

The motion was carried.

NATURALIZATION.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance for the Naturalization of Yeung Cheuk Hia *alias* Yeung Shun Kong was read a first time.

A Bill entitled an Ordinance for the Naturalization of Wong Ping Lam *alias* Wong U. K'ai was read a second and third time and passed.

THE CONCEALMENT OF OPIUM.

On the motion of the ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL, seconded by the COLONIAL SECRETARY, a Bill entitled an Ordinance for the Prevention of the Concealment of Opium on board Steamships was read a first time.

THE CATTLE DISEASES ETC., ORDINANCE.

The Council went into Committee on the Bill entitled an Ordinance to further amend the Cattle Diseases, Slaughter-houses, and Markets Ordinances.

Clause 3 of the Bill read as follows:—"Section 12 of the Cattle Diseases, Slaughter-houses and Markets Ordinance, 1887, is hereby amended by the deletion of the words 'for sale'."

The ACTING ATTORNEY-GENERAL—In consequence of having seen the Hon. E. R. Bellios and having been interviewed by certain Indian gentlemen, I have an amendment to move to clause 3. In the first place it seems to me that it would not be wise to delete the words "for sale" from section 12, because the word "animal," in section 12 of Ordinance 17 of 1887 includes sheep and goats and other ruminating animals, and swine, and I do not think it would be wise to make it a penal offence to slaughter and dress the carcass of a swine except in the slaughter house appointed in the ordinance, as it might prevent people from killing pigs in their own backyards. I take it that Europeans sometimes kill pigs on their own premises, and I should imagine it is not advisable to make this a penal offence.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—I do not know what the customs are here, but it seems to me that seeing that we have a slaughter house provided for the purpose of preventing animals except those fit for human food from being slaughtered, it would be inadvisable to allow any to be slaughtered in any other place than the slaughter house. Otherwise a man might take a swine which had been refused admission to the

slaughter-house into his own back-yard and kill it.

THE CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—I do not think it would be advisable to make the alteration without further consideration. It is not long since we made by-laws providing for the taking of pigs to the pig depot, where they are now kept and slaughtered. Practically all the pigs are owned by Chinese.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—I think it would be a great hardship to have to take a sucking pig to the slaughter-house to be slaughtered.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—What is the custom of the country?

The Hon. E. R. BELLIOS—The common practice amongst the European community in Hongkong is to slaughter sucking pigs in their own houses.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—As far as I can see, the effect of the Attorney-General's amendment would be that while you are not allowed to offer for sale any meat unfit for human consumption, you may slaughter it if you like in your own back-yards for your own consumption. But you gentlemen know more about the customs of the place and the necessities of the people than I do, and the matter is entirely in your hands.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—May I ask who suggested the deletion of the words, "for sale."

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL—I am sorry to say that the papers dealing with this matter seem to have gone astray altogether, but I think the suggestion came originally either from the Colonial Veterinary Surgeon (Mr. Ladds) or the Medical Officer of Health, and I think that probably the suggestion was made because as the Captain Superintendent of Police has pointed out it was not considered advisable for the Chinese to be allowed to kill swine in their own backyards. But it has been pointed out to me that that is rather a common custom and it was also pointed out to me that if we passed this Bill as it stands it would be a penal offence for any European to kill or dress a sucking pig on his own premises.

The Hon. E. R. BELLIOS—As to the condition of the animals slaughtered at home, I may say that they are specially fed so that they are in healthy condition when they are slaughtered. Especially is this the case at festivals.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—I understand that the alterations were for the purpose of enabling Mahomedans to slaughter certain animals without taking them to the slaughter-house and to meet the requirements of their religion?

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL—That will be provided for. The question divides itself into two points—whether these words "for sale" shall be left out, and then it is proposed to go on with the question of slaughtering for Indian troops or Indian police quartered in the colony.

The CAPTAIN SUPERINTENDENT OF POLICE—It would be a very dangerous thing to strike out the words "for sale." There are thousands of pigs slaughtered by Chinese.

The Hon. Dr. Ho Kai—I think it would be better if section 3 were deleted altogether, and if we let clause 12 stand as it has stood for nine years.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL—I beg to move that clause 3 of the Bill be amended as follows: by striking out the words "By the deletion of the words for sale" and substituting in lieu of these words "By the insertion between the word 'goats' and the word 'may' of the words 'or sheep,' and by the insertion after the word 'slaughtered' and before the word 'by' of the words 'or dressed elsewhere.'"

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I think this is an irregular course to pursue altogether. These amendments should be printed and circulated in order that members might have a reasonable amount of time to consider them and to see whether they meet the case or whether they do not. I submit that it is rather unreasonable that the time of honourable members should be taken up in drafting amendments in the way in which this has been drafted.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—It is quite in order for any honourable gentlemen to suggest any amendment which strikes him

during the passing of a Bill through committee. As a matter of fact this was foreshadowed.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—This was an amendment suggested some three weeks ago.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—This was foreshadowed by the Hon. E. R. Bellios.

At this stage the Hon. C. P. Chater obtained His Excellency's permission to retire, as he did not feel well.

The ACTING ATTORNEY GENERAL—This is how section 12 will read after being amended as I propose:—"No person shall slaughter any animal or dress any carcass thereof for sale except within a slaughter house appointed for the purpose under this Ordinance, always provided that goats or sheep may be slaughtered or dressed elsewhere by or for any Indians, Indian troops or Indian police quartered in the colony." The effect of this amendment, suggested by the Hon. E. R. Bellios and the Indian gentlemen he introduced to me, will be that it will be possible for them to slaughter on their own premises sheep as well as goats when necessary.

The amendment was adopted.

The Hon. E. R. BELLIOS threw out the suggestion that instead of the wholesale slaughtering of herds in cases of rinderpest they should build pens in the Hinterland and when suspected cases appeared transport the whole herd to such pens.

The Council then resumed.

HIS EXCELLENCY GOES TO TAIPOHU.

HIS EXCELLENCY THE GOVERNOR—Before we adjourn I want to tell you that on Wednesday I propose to go to Taipohu to meet the committeemen who have been appointed under the Ordinance which was passed some months ago. I need hardly tell you that from that time until now the Colonial Secretary has been busily engaged in going over the New Territory and dividing out the districts. We have made eight districts and a very large number of sub-districts, and we have appointed about 350 committeemen. I am going out to meet nearly 300 of them on Wednesday at Taipohu. The *Wingfu* will leave here at seven o'clock in the morning, and if any of you gentlemen would like to accompany me, I shall be glad to see you. I want to get there at about 12 o'clock, and so we shall have to leave here at about seven o'clock in the morning. I propose to see some committeemen at Taipohu on Wednesday and then see a smaller number at Pingsan on Friday.

The Council then adjourned until Tuesday of next week.

FINANCE COMMITTEE.

A meeting of the Finance Committee was then held, the Colonial Secretary presiding.

The CHAIRMAN—The first business I have to bring before the Committee to-day is a Bill entitled an Ordinance to authorise the appropriation of a supplementary sum of three hundred and eight thousand six hundred and seventy-two dollars and eighty-seven cents, to defray the charges of the year 1898. I propose to follow the usual practice and take each item, and if any honourable member has any question to ask in regard to it the Colonial Treasurer will answer it.

The Supplementary Colonial Estimates for 1898 were then gone through.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—With reference to the items under "Medical Departments" I observe that there is an increase of \$7,000 and it would be very desirable I think if, for the information of members of the committee, the Government would have a statement prepared showing the income and expenditure of the Civil Hospital for the last four years; and if the hospital is not self-supporting it is possible it may be made more self-supporting than it is. I do not know exactly whether it is self-supporting or not, but the fees appear to me to be very low. If the first-class patients went to a hotel they would have to pay much more, even if they went to a second-rate hotel, than they pay at the Government Civil Hospital.

The CHAIRMAN—The statement the honourable gentleman would like prepared will be prepared and laid before the Council. With regard to the fees I think the new scale was only drawn up a short time ago.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—It came into force in January last.

The CHAIRMAN—I take it from your remarks that you think the fees too low.

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD—I do not propose that the Government should make a profit out of the Government Civil Hospital, but if it is not self-supporting it may be made more so without injustice to the first-class portion.

The total of items headed "Public Works extraordinary" amounted to \$94,695.76, and

The Hon. T. H. WHITEHEAD remarked—That is an extremely large item.

The DIRECTOR OF PUBLIC WORKS explained that a larger store of materials was necessary in consequence of the taking over of the New Territory. He thought that under the circumstance the increase was not excessive.

It was decided to recommend the Council to sanction the Bill.

The CHAIRMAN—I may say that I had intended to bring several financial minutes before the committee to-day but in view of the fact that two of the unofficial members are absent I think it desirable we should postpone the consideration of these votes until we have a fuller meeting.

This was all the business.

THE ARMS DEALERS AND THE NEW ARMS ORDINANCE.

The following is the petition presented at the meeting of the Legislative Council on Monday by the Hon. T. H. Whitehead on behalf of the arms dealers:—

In the matter of the Arms Consolidation Ordinance 1895 and in the matter of a proposed Ordinance to amend the Arms Consolidation Ordinance, 1895.

To His Excellency Sir HENRY BLAKE, G.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the Colony of Hongkong and Vice-Admiral of the same and to the Legislative Council of the said Colony.

The Humble Petition of The Tung Tak firm of No. 191 Queen's Road Central, The Yow Foo firm of No. 356 Queen's Road Central, The Chee Yan firm of No. 230 Queen's Road Central, The Fook Lung firm of No. 14 Fat Hing Street, The Tak Lung firm of No. 322 Queen's Road Central, The Wing Tack firm of No. 16 Queen's Road West, The Luen Wo firm of No. 12 Queen's Road West, The Cheung Tai firm of No. 140 Praya West, The Tung Sing firm of No. 54 Queen's Road West, and the Kwong Tak Cheong firm of No. 215 Queen's Road West, all of Victoria in the Colony of Hongkong, Arms Dealers, Respectfully Sheweth:—

1.—That your Petitioners are dealers in Arms as defined by Section 3 of Ordinance No. 8 of 1895 carrying on business in the Colony of Hongkong at the respective addresses above mentioned.

2.—That at the present time there are eleven Chinese firms licensed under the said Ordinance No. 8 of 1895 at Victoria aforesaid carrying on the said business of dealers in Arms of whom your Petitioners are ten, the remaining firm being the Yow Cheong firm of No. 206 Queen's Road Central, Victoria aforesaid.

3.—That at the present time your Petitioners in accordance with the provisions of section 10 of the said Ordinance No. 8 of 1895 pay to the Government of this Colony an annual fee of \$10 in respect of the license to deal in arms granted to them under section 10 of the said Ordinance No. 8 of 1895.

4.—That your petitioners are informed that a Bill entitled "An Ordinance to amend the Arms Consolidation Ordinance 1895" has been recently introduced into the Legislative Council of this Colony and was read a first time by the said Council on the 20th June, 1899, whereby it is proposed to enact (*inter alia*) that (section 3) section 10 of Ordinance No. 8 of 1895 shall be thereby repealed and in lieu thereof the following section substituted:—

"Every importer of or dealer in arms shall take out a licence annually and shall register his name and place of business for the time being and any godown warehouse or other place in which he stores or intends to store arms, at the office of the Captain Superintendent of Police. Any importer of or dealer in arms not taking out such licence as aforesaid or not registering as aforesaid shall be liable on summary conviction to a fine not exceeding two thousand Dollars or to imprisonment for a period not

exceeding six months. From and after the commencement of this Ordinance the fee payable for such licence as aforesaid shall be \$1,200 per annum payable in advance, but no person who at the date of the commencement of this Ordinance possesses a valid and unexpired licence for importing or dealing in arms need take out a new licence under this Ordinance until the expiration of his current licence."

5.—That the "objects and reasons" annexed to the said Bill as printed and published in the *Hongkong Government Gazette* of the 24th June 1899 contain (*inter alia*) the following statement only with regard to the proposed annual licence fee of \$1,200 per annum viz:—

"(III) To raise the annual licence fee from the sum of \$10 to \$1,200."

6.—That your petitioners respectfully beg to protest against the imposition of such proposed annual fee of \$1,200 on the grounds that it is excessive and prohibitive and that no sufficient reasons for the imposition thereof are given in the said "objects and reasons" and more particularly on the grounds and for the reasons hereinafter set forth.

7.—That in this Colony the business of dealers in Arms is as compared with other forms of business carried on therein extraordinarily hampered and curtailed primarily through the provisions of the said Ordinance No. 8 of 1895 which so fetters and confines the said business as to deprive it of that freedom which is usually enjoyed by other forms of business in this Colony and which your Petitioners submit it is the policy of the British Empire to ensure to its subjects.

8.—That one of the practical results of the provisions of section 6 of the said Ordinance No. 8 of 1895 is to debar your Petitioners from retailing any of their stock in trade within this Colony or its Dependencies owing to the fact that all purchasers must possess a valid licence to carry or possess arms as more particularly stated in the said section and in consequence almost the sole form of business open to your Petitioners consists in the export trade in connection therewith.

9.—That such export trade is almost wholly confined to the Portuguese Colony of Macao and to the City of Canton in the Empire of China and is in itself rendered difficult and troublesome owing to the provisions of the said Ordinance No. 8 of 1895 and more particularly of section 6 thereof which requires that a permit from the Captain Superintendent of Police must be obtained by the exporter in respect of each and every shipment made by him and particulars of such shipment given before such permit can be obtained and in addition that in such cases as relate to shipments to places within the jurisdiction of the Emperor of China a further permit must first be obtained from the proper official at such place before the shipment can be made.

10.—That as a result of the general restrictions put upon the said business the volume thereof is unreasonably curtailed and reduced and the profits derived by your Petitioners therefrom are precarious and small and in the event of the imposition of such licence fee of \$1,200 as aforesaid none of your Petitioners would be in a position to pay the same and they would be driven to close their respective businesses in this colony.

11.—That should such licence fee be imposed it is the present intention of your Petitioners to remove their respective businesses to the said colony of Macao there to pursue the same.

12.—That your Petitioners respectfully beg to lay before you the conditions under which similar businesses to their own can be carried on in the said Colony of Macao, where the licence to dealers in Arms amounts to \$250 per annum, where there are no regulations or restrictions such as are in existence in this Colony, where the retail business is unfettered there being no farm or monopoly in respect of the dealing in Arms, and where no permits save the said licence are required.

13.—That owing to the conditions under which similar businesses can be carried on in the said colony of Macao and the consequent favourable terms upon which such businesses are enabled to compete with your Petitioners, they are unable to charge such prices for their goods as would enable them to make a fair and reasonable profit in their said businesses and so place

them in a position to meet such licence fee of \$1,200 as aforesaid if imposed.

14.—That the result of the closing of your Petitioners' said businesses in this Colony consequent upon the imposition of such licence fee of \$1,200 as aforesaid would be to put a practical stop to the business of dealing in Arms in this Colony and would lead to the transfer to the said Colony of Macao of the trade which this Colony enjoys in connection therewith.

15.—And lastly that your Petitioners have large stocks ordered from Europe and partly in course of transit to this Colony and have further entered into contracts for the sale thereof or of a part thereof and that heavy losses would result to your Petitioners in connection with the foregoing in the event of the closing of their said businesses which would be occasioned by the imposition of such licence fee of \$1,200 as aforesaid.

Your Petitioners therefore humbly pray Your Excellency that the existing annual licence fee for dealers in arms as provided by section X. of Ordinance No. 8 of 1895 be not increased and that the proposed fee of \$1,200 be not imposed, and further that Your Excellency may be pleased to take such other action in the premises as to Your Excellency may seem fit and your Petitioners as in duty bound will ever pray, &c.

Dated this 8th day of July, 1899.

(Here signatures of ten dealers follow.)

THE SECRETARY OF STATE ON THE KOWLOON DISTURBANCE.

The following despatch from the Secretary of State respecting the recent disturbances in connection with the taking over of the New Territory is published in the *Gazette*:—

Downing Street, 23rd June, 1899.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge the receipt of your despatch No. 107 of the 28th April and its enclosures in which you have given me some further details of the recent disturbances in connection with the taking over of the New Territory.

2.—I have read your despatch and enclosures with interest, and am confirmed in the favourable opinion which I expressed in my despatch No. 96 of 26th ultimo as to your own action and the manner in which you have been supported both by civilian officials and by Her Majesty's Naval and Military forces. Without wishing to undervalue in any way the services rendered by others, it is evident to me that much has been due to the energy of Mr. Lockhart, and to his local knowledge.

3.—I have not failed to bring to the notice of the Secretary of State for War and the Lords Commissioners of the Admiralty the manner in which you have spoken of the services rendered by the Naval and Military forces.

4.—I have at the same time to acknowledge the receipt of your Despatch No. 105 of the 27th April enclosing a copy of a letter addressed to you by the Secretary to the Hongkong Chamber of Commerce in reference to the recent disturbances.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient, humble servant.

J. CHAMBERLAIN.

Governor, Sir H. A. Blake, G.C.M.G.

MR. FRANCIS IMPUGNS BRITISH SOVEREIGNTY IN THE NEW TERRITORY.

The following petition and correspondence have been forwarded to us for publication:—

To His Excellency Sir HENRY ARTHUR BLAKE, G.C.M.G., Governor and Commander-in-Chief of the colony of Hongkong and its dependencies, and Vice-Admiral of the same.

The Humble Petition of John Joseph Francis, Barrister-at-law, one of Her Majesty's Counsel learned in the Law in and for the Colony of Hongkong.

Most respectfully sheweth:—

1.—That at a Special Criminal Sessions of the Supreme Court of this Colony holden on the 29th day of June last past, Tang Tsing Sz and Cheong Ting were convicted of the murder of Tung Cheong on the 18th day of April, 1899, at Un Loong in the Colony of Hongkong, and were on the 5th day of July instant sentenced by His Honour Mr. Goodman, Acting Chief Justice

of Hongkong, to suffer death by hanging for their said crime.

2.—That such conviction and sentence was wholly illegal and unjustifiable, the said town or village of Un Loong being a place within the New Territory recently leased by the Imperial Chinese Government to Her Majesty the Queen and where the laws of England are not now and never have been in force.

3.—That the Order-in-Council dated the 20th day of October, 1898, and published in the *Hongkong Government Gazette* of 8th April, 1899, and the Proclamation of Your Excellency of the 8th day of April, 1899, purporting to give effect to the said Order-in-Council and fixing a date for the provisions of the said Order-in-Council to commence to take effect, are null and void and of no effect, in so far as they direct that from a certain date all Laws and Ordinances then in force in Hongkong shall take effect in the said New Territories.

4.—That in so far as Her Majesty's said Order-in-Council purports to extend to the said New Territories all Laws and Ordinances in force in the Colony of Hongkong from a date to be thereafter fixed by Proclamation, the said Order-in-Council is *ultra vires* and of no effect, because such extension of English law to the said New Territories and to the inhabitants thereof is wholly unauthorized by the terms of the Convention of the 9th day of June, 1898, made between Her Majesty the Queen and His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China.

5.—That in and by the said Convention the said New Territories are leased, not ceded, to Her Majesty, for a term of 99 years. The said New Territories are therefore still under the territorial sovereignty of the Emperor of China and revert to him at the expiration of the said term of 99 years, and the inhabitants thereof are still Chinese subjects although for some purposes and for a limited period placed under the Government of Her Majesty and of Her Officers.

6.—That it is wholly inconsistent with the terms of the said Convention and with the nature of the transaction thereby evidenced, that, while the territorial sovereignty of the Emperor of China therein is preserved and his reversion in the said territories secured, the laws hitherto prevailing within the said territories should be wholly and entirely abrogated and new laws, both civil and criminal, of a totally different character and based on wholly other principles, should be introduced and enforced therein for a term of years, and that then the territory and the people should revert again to the laws of China at the end of the said term. By Chinese law property belongs to and descends in the family as a whole. By English law property belongs to the individual and descends to individuals. It is inconceivable that the framers of the convention could have intended to allow, in territory only leased, not ceded, such a wholesale alteration of the laws regulating the ownership and descent of property, to operate for a limited period only.

7.—That the true intent and meaning of the said Convention is, that the New Territory shall be included within the boundaries of the colony of Hongkong and that the Government thereof shall be administered by the Governor of Hongkong and his officers to the exclusion of all Chinese governors and officers, but that the powers of Government shall be limited to the necessities of defence and protection and shall not be inconsistent with the tenure—leasehold—under which the new territory is held, and that the law to be administered shall be Chinese law.

8.—That the only clause in the Convention relating to jurisdiction is the fourth:

"It is at the same time agreed that within the city of Kowloon the Chinese officials now stationed there shall continue to exercise jurisdiction," &c., &c. Within the remainder of the "newly leased territory Great Britain shall have sole jurisdiction."

That in the said clause the word "jurisdiction" is used twice and both times in the same sense, that is, the sense of administering not making the laws.

9.—That the word "jurisdiction" does not necessarily imply the power to make or alter laws. It is far more frequently applied in the more limited sense of administering the law, and that the nature of the arrangement made between Her Majesty's Government and

the Government of Empire of China for a lease instead of a concession, necessitates the more restrained signification.

10.—That the rights and powers and jurisdiction conferred upon Her Majesty by the said Convention are powers to be exercised within a foreign country, that is, within the dominions of His Majesty the Emperor of China.

11.—That such powers can only be exercised by Her Majesty, under the authority of the Foreign Jurisdiction Act, 1890 (53-54 Victoria Chap. 87).

12.—That it is only by virtue of the provisions of that Act Her Majesty can confer upon any Court in any British possession any jurisdiction which Her Majesty may lawfully have in any foreign country, and it has been determined by the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council in the case of the Imperial Japanese Government *versus* the P. & O. Company, reported in the Law Reports, Appeal Cases 1895, that no Order-in-Council can confer on any British Court any jurisdiction other than what had been acquired by Her Majesty by Treaty.

13.—That the Order-in-Council of the 20th day of October last purporting to put in force in the New Territory all Laws and Ordinances in force on a certain date in the Colony of Hongkong to try and punish all offences against the laws of Hongkong committed in the said New Territory after a certain date assumes a jurisdiction not conferred upon Her Majesty by the Convention of the 9th June, 1898, and in so far is inoperative and null and void and purports to confer a jurisdiction which Her Majesty did not possess.

14.—That at the date of the said Convention His Imperial Majesty the Emperor of China did not possess in the said New Territories any jurisdiction whatever over (beyond the right to arrest) any subject of any nation—European or American—committing any offence within the said territories. He had by Treaty ceded all his jurisdiction over such foreigners, except as aforesaid, to their respective Governments.

Your Petitioner humbly submits, in conclusion, that the power to alter the laws in the New Territories is nowhere expressly conceded to Her Majesty by the Convention of the 9th June, 1898; that such jurisdiction is nowhere impliedly conceded; that the jurisdiction conceded to Her said Majesty by the said Convention is only a power to administer the law and exercise the ordinary powers of Government, other than legislative, in the New Territories and must be consistent with the nature of the concession, a lease for a limited period of years; that a power to wholly abrogate all Chinese law and introduce English law into the New Territory is wholly inconsistent with the existence of a mere leasehold interest; that it is impossible that the Emperor of China could have intended to confer plenary legislative and judicial powers on the English Government and Courts as he had already granted away to other Powers all his powers—legislative and judicial—over their respective subjects; that Her Majesty cannot by Her Orders in Council confer upon Her Governors and Courts powers in excess of those conferred on Her by the Convention of the 9th June, 1898; and that the trial and condemnation of the said Tang Tsing Sz and Cheong Ting on the 5th July last are and ought to be held to be null and void and of no effect.

Your petitioner therefore humbly prays—

1.—That Your Excellency will not give effect to the sentence of the said Supreme Court on the said Tsang Tsing Sz and Cheong Ting, but will relieve the prisoners and will refer the question of the legality or otherwise of the sentence pronounced against them to Her Majesty's Government under the provisions of section 407 of the rules and regulations for Her Majesty's Colonial Service.

And your petitioner as in duty bound will ever pray, &c., &c.

JNO. J. FRANCIS.

No. 1180.

Colonial Secretary's Office,
Hongkong, 21st July, 1899.

Sir.—In answer to your letter of the 10th instant enclosing a Petition by you to His Excellency the Governor for the reprieve of Tang Tsing Sz and Cheong Ting, I am directed to inform you that His Excellency submitted by telegraph to the Secretary of State for the

Colonies your contention that Her Majesty has no power to make laws for the New Territory, and that a reply has been received from the Secretary of State to the effect that he is advised by the Law Officers of the Crown that your contention cannot be supported.—I have the honour to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

J. H. STEWART LOCKHART,

Colonial Secretary.

J. J. Francis, Esq., Q.C.

4, Praya Central, Victoria,

Hongkong, 22nd July, 1899.

Sir,—I have the honour to acknowledge receipt of your letter No. 1180 of the 21st inst. It came to hand last evening too late to reply to it.

I deeply regret that in a matter of such importance, affecting the lives of the two Chinese under sentence of death, and the rights and liberties of so many other of the inhabitants of the New Territories, His Excellency the Governor has thought fit to submit the difficult questions of law raised by my petition by telegraph instead of by the ordinary course of post.

Unless my petition was wired to the Secretary of State in its entirety it would be almost impossible for him to submit a case for the opinion of the Law Officers of the Crown in such a form as to elicit a really sound opinion on which it would be safe to act. No summary of the petition was likely to raise the precise point. If I were to judge of the character of the message sent by His Excellency and of the case submitted for the opinion of the Law Officers from the statements in the letter now under reply I should say that the point had been entirely missed. I have never contended that Her Majesty had no power to make laws for the New Territory. If I had so contended the Law Officers of the Crown would be quite right in their opinion that such a contention could not be supported.

Her Majesty has undoubted power to make laws for the New Territory, laws regulating such matters as Police, Sanitation, &c., &c. Her Majesty has undoubted power to make laws constituting Courts both Civil and Criminal and defining and regulating the jurisdiction of Her Courts and Magistrates. Her Majesty has power to make all laws that are not inconsistent with the fact that the New Territory is only held under lease.

My contention is set forth very clearly in the 3rd and 4th paras. of my petition. All the other paras. are by way of argument in support. I there say that the Order in Council of the 20th October last is null and void and of no effect in so far as it directs all laws and ordinances then in force in Hongkong to take effect in the New Territories.

Under the circumstances I again respectfully urge that the men now awaiting execution should be reprieved until the whole case in their favour has been submitted in adequate form to the Law Officers of the Crown and to the Privy Council.—I have the honour to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JNO. J. FRANCIS.

The Hon. J. H. Stewart Lockhart, C.M.G.,
Colonial Secretary.

EXECUTION AT VICTORIA GAOL.

At Victoria Gaol at six o'clock on Monday morning Tang Tsing Sz and Cheong Tin, who had been sentenced to death for the murder of Tang Cheung at Un Loong last April, were executed in the presence of Hon. F. H. May, Superintendent of the Gaol; Mr. R. H. Craig, Assistant Superintendent; Dr. J. C. Thomson; Chief Warder Pierrepont, and the usual escort of prison warders. One of the warders acted as executioner. Death was instantaneous in both cases. A formal inquest was held in the afternoon by Mr. H. Gompertz, Acting Police Magistrate, with Messrs. J. C. Peter, A. H. Skelton, and W. A. Stopapi as jurors. Dr. Thomson said he had made an examination of the bodies, and in his opinion death was due to dislocation of the neck in both cases. A verdict in accordance with the medical testimony was returned.

IMPORTANT SALE OF PROPERTY.

On 27th July Messrs. Hughes and Hough commenced the sale by public auction, at their auction rooms, Icehouse Lane, of 40 lots of leasehold property belonging to Mr. Ho Tung. There was a large attendance, including about 50 of the wealthiest Chinamen in the city. Twenty-five lots were disposed of—from one to 24 (inclusive) and 38. The following are the details:—

- Lot 1.—No. 325, Queen's Road West, area 778 square feet; annual crown rent \$6.08; purchaser Mr. Un Li Chuen; price \$4,050.
- Lot 2.—No. 323, Queen's Road West, area 740 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.80; purchaser Mr. Ip Chun Kam; price \$4,050.
- Lot 3.—No. 321, Queen's Road West, area 744 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.82; purchaser Mr. Un Li Chuen; price \$4,000.
- Lot 4.—No. 319, Queen's Road West, area 736 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.77; purchaser Mr. Un Li Chuen; price \$4,000.
- Lot 5.—No. 317, Queen's Road West, area 740 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.80; purchaser Mr. Kwok Tan; price \$4,000.
- Lot 6.—No. 315, Queen's Road West, area 744 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.82; purchaser Mr. Li Pan Kwai; price \$4,000.
- Lot 7.—No. 313, Queen's Road West, area 744 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.82; purchaser Mr. Ip Chung Kan; price \$4,100.
- Lot 8.—No. 311, Queen's Road West, area 744 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.82; purchaser Mr. Ip Chung Kan; price \$4,100.
- Lot 9.—No. 309, Queen's Road West, area 744 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.82; purchaser Mr. Yung Ping; price \$4,100.
- Lot 10.—No. 307, Queen's Road West, area 744 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.82; purchaser Mr. Ip Chung Kan; price \$4,150.
- Lot 11.—No. 305, Queen's Road West, area 744 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.82; purchaser Mr. Yung Ping; price \$4,450.
- Lot 12.—No. 303, Queen's Road West, area 744 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.82; purchaser Mr. Kwok Tan; price \$5,000.
- Lot 13.—No. 301, Queen's Road West, area 744 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.82; purchaser Mr. Mok Li Tang; price \$5,550.
- Lot 14.—No. 299, Queen's Road West, area 783 square feet; annual crown rent \$6.16; purchaser Mr. Ip Chun Kam; price \$8,900.

The above 14 lots forming the whole of inland lot No. 1,273 are held from the Crown for the residue of a term of 999 years.

- Lot 15.—No. 173, Praya West, area 770 square feet; annual crown rent \$6.14; purchaser Mr. Wai Tun Shok; price \$6,200.
- Lot 16.—No. 174, Praya West, area 738 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.87; purchaser Mr. Li Pan Kwai; price \$6,200.
- Lot 17.—No. 175, Praya West, area 734 square feet; annual crown rent \$5.85; purchaser Mr. Un Li Chuen; price \$6,300.
- Lot 18.—No. 176, Praya West, area 770 square feet; annual crown rent \$6.15; purchaser Mr. Un Li Chuen; price \$7,050.

The last mentioned 4 lots forming the whole of inland lot No. 1,279 are held from the Crown for the residue of a term of 999 years.

- Lot 19.—Nos. 347, 349, 351, and 353, Queen's Road West, with 2 basements Nos. 7 and 8 in a lane off Ki Ling Lane, area 4,712 square feet; annual crown rent \$37.85; purchaser Hongkong Land Investment Co.; price \$17,850.

- Lot 20.—Nos. 341, 343, and 345, Queen's Road West, and No. 1, Ah Fung Lane, and basements Nos. 4, 5 and 6, in a lane off Ki Ling Lane, area 4,390 square feet; annual crown rent \$35.37; purchaser Hongkong Land Investment Co.; price \$13,800.

- Lot 21.—Nos. 335, 337, and 339, Queen's Road West, and one house in the rear un-numbered and basements, area 4,304 square feet; annual crown rent \$34.67; purchaser Mr. Ho Tung (for a friend); price \$16,700.

The last mentioned 3 lots forming the whole of inland lot No. 1,270 are held from the Crown for the residue of a term of 999 years.

- Lot 22.—No. 30, Cross Street, Wanchai, area 646 square feet; annual crown rent \$9.78; purchaser Mr. Chan Chik Tang; price \$4,100.

- Lot 23.—No. 28, Cross Street, area 602 square feet; annual crown rent \$9.12; purchaser Mr. Chan Chik Tang; price \$3,400.

Lot 24.—No. 26, Cross Street; area 594 square feet; annual crown rent \$8.96; purchaser, Mr. Li Pan Kwai; price \$3,300.

Lot 38.—Godown No. 43, Praya East; actual area 24,190 square feet; term 999 years; annual crown rent \$381.28; purchaser Mr. Un Li Chuen; price \$42,742 (\$1.80 per foot.)

The sales for the day realised \$192,892.

Messrs. Hughes and Hough continued their sale of leasehold properties belonging to Mr. Ho Tung on Saturday, when there was again a good attendance. Thirteen lots were disposed of and fetched \$58,600. Lots 39 and 40 were not sold. The following are the details:—

Lot 25.—No. 24, Cross Street; area 596 square feet; annual crown rent \$8.96; purchaser Mr. Mok Yu; price \$3,500.

Lot 26.—No. 22 Cross Street; area 606 square feet; annual crown rent \$9.12; purchaser Mr. Mok Yu; price \$3,500.

Lot 27.—No. 20, Cross Street; area 600 square feet; annual crown rent \$9.10; purchaser Mr. Mok Yu; price \$3,300.

Lot 28.—No. 18, Cross Street; area 604 square feet; annual crown rent \$9.13; purchaser Mr. Mok Yu; price \$3,500.

Lot 29.—No. 16, Cross street, area 636 square feet; annual crown rent \$9.60; purchaser Mr. Mok Yu; price \$5,000.

Lot 30.—No. 13, Tai Wo Street, area 830 square feet; annual crown rent \$12.61; purchaser Mr. Ip Chun Kan; price \$3,100.

Lot 31.—No. 12, Tai Wo Street; area 840 square feet; annual crown rent \$12.76; purchaser Mr. Ip Chun Kan; price \$2,850.

Lot 32.—No. 11, Tai Wo Street; area 840 square feet; annual crown rent \$12.76; purchaser Mr. Ip Chun Kan; price \$2,800.

Lot 33.—No. 10, Tai Wo Street; area 879 square feet; annual crown rent \$13.36; purchaser Mr. Ip Chun Kan; price \$3,000.

Lot 34.—No. 8, Stone Nullah Lane; area 830 square feet; annual crown rent \$12.61; purchaser Mr. Mok Yu; price \$2,950.

Lot 35.—No. 6, Stone Nullah Lane; area 840 square feet; annual crown rent \$12.76; purchaser Mr. Ip Chun Kan; price \$2,800.

Lot 36.—No. 4, Stone Nullah Lane; area 840 square feet; annual crown rent \$12.76; purchaser Mr. Ip Chun Kan; price \$2,750.

Lot 37.—No. 2, Stone Nullah Lane, area 880 square feet; annual crown rent \$13.37; purchaser Mr. Ip Chun Kan; price \$2,950.

The last mentioned 16 Lots forming the whole of Inland Lot No. 430 are held from the Crown for the residue of a term of 999 years.

Lot 39.—No. 5, Li Yuen Street West, area 824 square feet; annual crown rent \$13.24; reserve not reached; the best bid \$8,500.

Lot 40.—No. 7, Li Yuen Street West; area 824 square feet; annual crown rent \$13.25; reserve not reached; highest bid \$8,300.

HONGKONG SANITARY BOARD.

The fortnightly meeting of the Hongkong Sanitary Board was held on Thursday afternoon. The President (Dr. Atkinson, Principal Civil Medical Officer) occupied the chair, and there were also present the Hon. R. D. Ormsby (Director of Public Works), Mr. E. Osborne, Dr. Lawson (Acting Medical Officer of Health), and Mr. C. W. Duggan (Secretary).

APPLICATION FROM THE HUNGHOM DOCKS.
An application was received for permission to erect water-closets for the use of Europeans at the Hunghom Docks.

In the minutes referring to the application the Vice-President and Dr. Clark expressed themselves against the application being granted and the President and the Hon. R. D. Ormsby in favour.

The Hon. R. D. Ormsby in proposing that the application be granted, subject to the approval of the Board's surveyor, said it appeared that they had had water-closets at the Hunghom Docks for a number of years. They had not proved a nuisance to anybody. This was merely a reconstruction. Mr. Gillies had pointed out the place to him and informed him there was a continuous rush of salt water through the short length of pipe to the sea.

Dr. Lawson seconded, and the motion was carried.

THE PLAGUE.

A further report as to the plague at Penang showed that for the week ended July 15th there were three cases and the same number of deaths, the number of cases reported up to noon, July 14th, being 48; deaths 36.

A report from Bombay city showed that from June 20th to July 3rd (inclusive) there were 104 cases and 93 deaths.

The mortality returns from Macao for the week ended July 9th showed 67 deaths, including 11 from plague) and 67 for the following week (including four from plague).

HONGKONG DEATH RATE.

The mortality statistics for the colony of Hongkong for the week ended July 15th showed a death rate of 31.1, against 40.1 for the previous week and 15.7 for the corresponding week last year. The rate for the following week was 22.8, against 25.5 for the corresponding week last year.

LIMEWASHING.

Mr. OSBORNE asked whether any steps had been taken to prosecute owners of unlimewashed premises in the Western division, as it was more especially with regard to that division that it was understood they were to take action. According to the report apparently no notices had been served.

The PRESIDENT said it appeared that owing to the illness of the Inspector of No. 9 district the notices had not been served. Steps would be taken to have them served as soon as possible.

Mr. OSBORNE said they had a law providing for periodical cleansing and penalties for neglecting the same and the moment they attempted to put that law into effect they found they were powerless to do it owing to an insufficient staff, and he begged to move that a representation on the subject be made to the Government with a view to an immediate increase in the staff for the purpose of prosecuting owners of property who failed to comply with the law.

The PRESIDENT—The Chief Inspector has arrived lately and it is one of his duties to undertake these prosecutions.

Dr. LAWSON—We might leave this matter over for a fortnight to see what can be done.

Mr. OSBORNE agreed to this.

This was all the business.

THE SILK TRADE INTERRUPTED BY THE LAWLESSNESS IN KWANGTUNG.

NATIVE DEALERS UNABLE TO FULFIL THEIR ENGAGEMENTS.

REPRESENTATIONS TO THE FOREIGN MINISTERS AT PEKING.

In consequence of the robberies and piracies up country in Kwangtung, the silk merchants in Canton are afraid they will be unable to meet their engagements. The silk producers are threatened and blackmailed by the lawless pirates (who now run riot unchecked through the Two Kwang) to such an extent that they are unable to send the silk down for fear either that it should be captured for the money paid for it seized on its way up country. The foreign merchants at Canton, in view of the serious position of affairs, have, through their Consuls, represented the condition of affairs to the Foreign Ministers at Peking.

THE DISORDER IN KWANGTUNG

A Canton correspondent writes as follows:—Further details of brigandage prevailing in Saichin are to hand and show the extent to which the unfortunate people of the district are blackmailed. The Namhoi Magistrate Yang was sent by the Viceroy to suppress the disturbance, and he had seventeen robbers arrested and brought back to Canton. The robber chiefs, emboldened by the paltriness of their loss, sent an impudent letter to the elders demanding the return of these seventeen men, failing which they threatened to set fire to the market town of Hangkeung. The people, greatly alarmed, for they have good reason to dread the vengeance of the robbers, closed their shops, the market was suspended, and all business stopped. The robbers also threatened to seize the principal elder, named Shun. The

Ngehun bandits now number over a thousand men.

Colonel Shek garrisoned his troops in the Ngtaopo village school for the protection of the village. The robbers had their headquarters in the ancestral hall of Lukkongkok and were levying blackmail. The villagers, knowing that the mandarin soldiers were soldiers only in name and could not fight, had to submit to the squeezes applied to them and pay over, it is said, many thousands of dollars. Colonel Shek, knowing the weakness of his troops, dared not advance to the attack, and the robbers now threaten the complete destruction of his forces.

A sternwheel "man power" boat named the *Katchau*, plying between Canton and Saichin was attacked some time ago by pirates and robbed and a promise was extracted from the master to pay a squeeze of \$100 a month for immunity from further attack. Of late the master has failed to pay this squeeze, pleading that business was bad. On the 22nd July, while the boat was on her way from Canton to Saichin and was near Koonsan, a force of several hundred robbers armed with modern quick-firing rifles was seen on the river bank, and they demanded from the master the squeeze agreed upon and an explanation of his failure to pay. They gave him one day's grace for payment, and the master, knowing it was not safe to approach the shore for further parley, got away as quickly as he could and was afraid to return next day.

There is practically a stoppage of trade between Canton and the disturbed districts.

THE ASSESSMENT FOR 1899-1900.

The report of Mr. Arthur Chapman, assessor, on the assessment for the year 1899-1900 is published in the *Gazette*.

The result of the new valuation is that the rateable value of the city of Victoria is, in the list which came into force on the 1st July, \$4,241,919 as compared with last year's (1898-99) assessment \$3,828,577, an increase in rateable value of \$413,342 equivalent to 10.79 per cent.

The rateable value of the Hill District is now \$149,875 against \$138,765 last year, an increase of \$11,110 or 8.00 per cent.

The rateable value of the Hongkong villages has risen from \$172,543 to \$176,063, an increase of \$3,520 or 2.04 per cent.

The rateable value of the district known as Kowloon point has increased from \$187,335 to \$144,530, a difference of \$7,195, equal to 5.23 per cent.

The rateable value of the villages comprising the remainder of British Kowloon is now \$274,447 as compared with \$244,727 last year, an increase of \$29,720 or 12.14 per cent.

The rateable value of the whole colony is now \$4,986,834 as compared with last year's assessment of \$4,521,947, an increase of \$464,887 or 10.27 per cent.

MORE HIGHWAY ROBBERIES.

On Tuesday as a gentlemen of the name of Berwick was walking along the south side of Queen's Road Central, near Watson & Co.'s, he heard a scream and on looking in the direction whence it came across the road, he saw a European lady struggling in the grasp of a Chinaman. He at once ran to her assistance with another gentleman, who turned out to be the captain of the steamer *Hangchow*. The captain fell as he ran down a lane after the thief, but Mr. Berwick, in spite of his fifteen stone weight, for he is now well on in the forties, nimbly overtook the thief. Mr. Berwick was a champion runner in his younger days. When handed over to an Indian constable and searched the lady's purse was found on the thief. The lady had her daughter with her at the time she was attacked. The police in every case that these attacks on foreign ladies have occurred have failed to arrest the perpetrators, and it is pleasant to find that in this case the scoundrel did not get off scot free, thanks to the nimble Mr. Berwick.

At the Magistracy on Thursday the two men were convicted of being rogues and vagabonds. The police have every reason to believe that the men are connected with one or other of the recent highway robberies, but they cannot be identified.

Between 11 and 12 o'clock on Saturday morning a grass-cutter was going down the hill-side near Mount Davies when he was set upon by three men, one of whom flourished a wooden pipe over his head. In the struggle which ensued the man sprained his ankle, but was not otherwise injured. He was robbed of \$18 by two of the men, who at once cleared off when they had got the money. The grass-cutter kept hold of the third man and gave him in charge of an Indian constable, who took him to the Police Station. The man was brought up at the Magistracy on Thursday and remanded, as the grass-cutter was in hospital and unable to attend.

One would think that Queen's Road West at half-past ten in the morning was a most unlikely locality for a highway robbery, and the fact that a fisherman was attacked there on Friday, 28th July, by four men and robbed shows how emboldened the bad characters in the city have become. After robbing the man of \$1.56 in money and a canvas belt the robbers endeavoured to get away, but fortunately two of them were caught before they had got far, and on Saturday they were brought up at the Magistracy. Evidence was given by complainant and two Chinese constables, and then defendants were asked what they had got to say. First defendant said—I went out for a walk yesterday with second defendant, who is my younger brother. I was walking in Queen's Road when I saw a lot of men running up a street. I ran up also and a police constable, stopped me. Complainant said to the constable, "This is not the man; let him go;" and the constable replied, "Never mind whether he is the right man or not, we have him, keep him." Second defendant also told an equally unlikely story. First defendant was sentenced to four months' hard labour, and second defendant, who is but a boy, to receive 12 strokes with the birch.

Another highway robbery has been reported to the police. As a Chinese compositor employed in Hongkong and residing in Taichau village, near Kowloon City, was passing by Matawai village on this way to Yaumati at about six a.m. on the 28th July he was attacked by two men, who stole from him a silk jacket, an umbrella, a cotton handkerchief, and 70 cents in 10 cent pieces—total value \$5.20. The men then made off, and the compositor, who was unhurt, reported the matter to the police.

ROYAL WELSH FUSILIERS GYMKHANA.

By the kind permission of the Hongkong Jockey Club, a gymkhana was held on the Race Course, Happy Valley, on Saturday afternoon by the Royal Welsh Fusiliers, whose band was in attendance and played selections of music. There was a good attendance, the weather being favourable. A most interesting programme was gone through.

THE FIRST EVENT was a scurry for all China ponies, round a post and home; distance about one furlong each way, no whips or spurs. There were 25 entries, and the following horses were placed:—

Captain Warren's Snuffbox	1
Mr. Walwyn's Landsnecht	2
Mr. Johnson's Wizard	3

EVENT 2 was a pig-sticking contest, run in four heats. It was most amusing. A horseman trailed after him a canvas pig filled with bladders, whilst the competitors followed with spears with which they endeavoured to pierce the counterfeit porker in a particular spot. The following four were in the final heat, Mr. Cruickshank coming off winner:—

Mr. Cruickshank	1
Mr. Owen	0
Capt. Rickman	0
Capt. Geoghegan	0

Another novelty was introduced in the next event—Ladies' Nomination. The conditions were:—Gentlemen to ride ponies; Ladies, bicycles, by different routes, to a table, where each will make a button hole from flowers provided, and return the way they came, each wearing the button hole made by the other. Each Gentleman to dismount at given post and finish on foot with his nominator, 4 points

for button holes; 6, 4 and 2 points for 1st, 2nd and 3rd. Winners:—

Miss Vernon (nominates Mr. Cruickshank's pony)	1
Mrs. Griffin (nominates Capt. Rickman's pony)	2
Miss Jackson (nominates Mr. Walwyn's pony)	3

EVENT FOUR was a hurdle race. There were 16 entries, and the winners were:—

Mr. Johnson's Wizard	1
Mr. Walwyn's Queensberry	2
Mr. Walwyn's Landsnecht	3

THE ELEPHANT SCREEN RACE was another novelty. On a huge paper screen the figure of an elephant had been painted; the horse which got through first and past the pole was the winner. The elephant was a fearful looking creature—enough to frighten any horse—and when the ponies came up to it in a bunch they hesitated about facing it. Mr. Johnson broke through first and won

Mr. Johnson	1
Mr. Cox	2
Mr. Potts	3

A CRACKER RACE—ladies' nomination—was the last event. The conditions were:—Gentlemen to ride to a table, dismount and get a cracker, take it back to his nominator, who will hang it on a pole and light it. First cracker burnt out, wins. Cracker, poles and matches provided. Winners:—

Miss Jackson (nominates Major Dobell's pony)	1
Mrs. Morris (nominates Capt. Simmond's pony)	2
Miss Powell (nominates Mr. Geiger's pony)	3

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

The following is the sixth-eighth report of the Court of directors to the ordinary half-yearly general meeting of shareholders to be held at the City Hall, on Saturday, the 19th August, at noon:—

To the Proprietors of the Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.

Gentlemen.—The directors have now to submit to you a General Statement of the affairs of the Bank, and balance sheet for the half-year ending 30th June last.

The net profits for that period, including \$834,636.46, balance brought forward from last account, after paying all charges, deducting interest paid and due, and making provision for for bad and doubtful accounts, amount to \$3,447,578.68.

The Directors recommend the transfer of \$1,000,000 from the Profit and Loss Account to credit of Reserve Fund, which Fund will then stand at \$11,000,000.

They also recommend writing off Bank Premises Account the sum of \$250,000.

After making these Transfers and deducting Remuneration to Directors there remains for appropriation \$2,182,579.68, out of which the Directors recommend the payment of a Dividend of one pound and ten shillings sterling per share, which at 4/6 will absorb \$533,333.33.

The difference in exchange between 4/6, the rate at which the dividend is declared, and 1/11½, the rate of the day, amounts to \$685,714.29.

The Balance \$963,532.06 to be carried to New Profit and Loss Account.

DIRECTORS.

Mr. C. Beermann, Mr. David Gubbay and the Honourable J. J. Bell-Irving having resigned their seats on leaving the Colony, Mr. E. Goetz, Mr. E. Shellim and the Honourable J. J. Keswick have been invited to fill the vacancies; these appointments require confirmation at this meeting.

AUDITORS.

The accounts have been audited by Mr. F. Henderson and Mr. A. G. Wood, the latter acting for Mr. C. S. Sharp who is absent from the colony.

R. M. GRAY, Chairman.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1899.

ABSTRACT OF ASSETS AND LIABILITIES, 30TH JUNE, 1899.

LIABILITIES.	\$	c.
Paid-up capital	10,000,000.00	
Reserve fund	10,000,000.00	
Marine insurance account	250,000.00	
Notes in circulation:—		
Authorized issue against Securities deposited		

with the crown agents for the Colonies 10,000,000.00
Additional issue authorized by Hongkong Ordinance No. 1 of 1899, against coins lodged with the Hongkong Government 2,622,695.00

Current accounts—
Silver 50, 91,562.34
Gold, £2,555,38 11s. 4d.—25,323,882.70

Fixed deposits—
Silver 23,356,656.94
Gold, £3,313,626 11s. 2d.—33,485,692.22

Bills payable (including drafts on London bankers and short sight drawings on London office against bills receivable and bullion shipments) 13,216,725.66
Profit and loss account 3,447,579.68
Liability on bills of exchange re-discounted, £4,55,588 7s. 7d. of which up to this date £3,663,464. 10s. 11d. have run off.

\$302,596,102.24

ASSETS.

Cash 26,720,111.46
Coin lodged with the Hongkong Government against note circulation in excess of \$10,000,000 5,000,000.00
Bullion in hand and in transit 2,917,401.93
Indian Government rupee paper 2,267,346.29
Colonial and other securities 2,163,145.26

Investments, viz:—
£250,000 2½ per cent. consols lodged with the bank of England as a special London reserve, at 95 £237,550 1,900,000.00
£522,500 2½ per cent. consols at 90 £470,250 4,702,500.00
£347,500 other sterling securities standing in the books at £339,750 3,397,500.00

10,000,000.00
Bills discounted, loans and credits 6,595,323.61
Bills receivable 76,273,540.25
Bank premises 521,610.05

\$202,596,102.24

GENERAL PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT, 30th JUNE 1899.

Dr. \$ c.
To amounts written off:—
Remuneration to directors 15,000.00
To dividend account:—
£1.10s. share on 80,000 shares—2120,000 at 4s. 6d., 533,333.33
To dividend adjustment account:—
Difference in exchange between 4s. 6d., the rate at which the dividend is declared, and 1s. 11½d., the rate of the day, 685,714.29
To transfer to reserve fund 1,000,000.00
To transfer to Bank premises account 250,000.00
To balance carried forward to next half year, 963,532.06

\$ 2,447,579.68

Cr. \$ c.

By balance of undivided profits, 31st December, 1898, 234,636.46
By amount of net profits for the six months ending 30th June, 1899, after making provision for bad and doubtful debts, deducting all expenses and interest paid and due 2,012,643.22

\$ 2,447,579.68

REMAINS FUND.

To balance, 11,000,000.00

11,000,000.00

By balance, 31st December, 1898, 10,000,000.00

By transfer from profit and loss account 1,000,000.00

\$11,000,000.00

At the Magistracy on Monday Wong Tze Tit was charged that he did with fraudulent intent and contrary to the provisions of Ordinance 22 of 1890 aid and abet three persons, stowaways found on board the steamship Changsha, with intent to obtain a passage thereon without the consent of the China Navigation Company, the owners of the vessel, and without the consent of Captain Moore, the master of the vessel. Mr. Gedge appeared for the prosecution, and on his application the case was adjourned until the Changsha returns from the north.

THE HONGKONG CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT CO., LIMITED.

The ordinary half-yearly meeting of shareholders in the above company was held at the office of the company, No. 18, Bank Buildings, Wyndham street, on Monday. The Hon. E. R. Bellis presided, and there were also present Messrs. N. A. Siebs, F. A. Gomes, E. Goetz (directors), T. Arnold (Secretary), E. George, J. R. Michael, (Capt.) W. E. Clarke, B. M. Mehta, T. Yule, A. S. da Cruz, R. E. Bellis, E. J. Moses, E. J. Judah, and Wong Ping Tam.

The Secretary read the notice convening meeting.

The CHAIRMAN said.—Gentlemen, the report and accounts, having been issued to shareholders a week ago, will, with your permission, be taken as read. Our earnings, I am pleased to say, have been rather above the average, and enable us, after providing for the usual dividend, to carry forward some \$54,000 to meet the exceptional expenditure for new boilers for the *Powen* and as an instalment of the amount to be written off the book value of our fleet at the end of the year. There is not much for me to remark upon in connection with the running of the steamers. We have had some disappointment in regard to the West River, and if the conditions under which we are now running on those waters continue, I am afraid that we shall not be able to look for any increase of revenue from that source. At our meeting a year ago the Chairman remarked that up to that time we had been at a great disadvantage by being confined to one particular route, and to certain places of call, whereas our competitors, the Chinese Companies, were allowed to take any route they chose and to call where they liked. The restrictions we then complained of were shortly afterwards removed, with the result that earnings increased and the trade seemed to promise well for the future. Some two months ago, however, we were in accordance with the interpretation placed by the Customs authorities on the Rules for Inland Navigation, suddenly put back to the position we occupied at the first opening of the river, the immediate effect of which was a falling off of fifty per cent in our passenger receipts. Representations on the subject have been made to the proper quarter and we can only hope that ere long these Inland Waters may be open to the trade of foreign steamers in the real sense of the term. The two tow boats and four lighters for the direct service from Hongkong to Wuchow ordered a year ago are now about ready to commence work. In addition to these the Board has recently, in conjunction with the other Companies interested in the trade, ordered two stern wheel steamers for the Canton and Wuchow service of greater capacity than the boats now running on that line. With the removal of the restrictions I have referred to, these boats should do well. A considerable passenger traffic undoubtedly exists, and all we ask is to be allowed to engage in it on equal terms with our native competitors. Another grievance to be remedied, before we can be said to have fair play, is the one of differential duties whereby the cargo carrying trade has been gradually diverted from steamers to junks. This is a matter which has several times been referred to at previous meetings, and although everything in the way of making representations that could be done has been done, things have only gone from bad to worse; the only possible remedy would seem to be the abolition of the dual system and the collection of all duties by the Foreign Customs. Since we last met our investments in shares have further appreciated in value and would show a considerable profit if realised at current market rates. With these remarks, gentlemen, I would propose the adoption of the report and accounts, but before doing so, I shall be pleased to answer any questions which shareholders may wish to ask.

There being no questions, the report and accounts were adopted.

The Hon. J. J. BELL-IRVING and Mr. C. BRUMFITT having resigned their seats at the Board upon leaving the colony, the directors nominated the Hon. J. J. Keswick and Mr. E. Goetz to fill the vacancies.

On the motion of Mr. GEORG, seconded by Mr. MOSES, the action of the directors was confirmed.

On the motion of Capt. CLARKE, second by Mr. MICHAEL, the Hon. J. J. Keswick and Mr. F. A. Gomes were re-elected on the directorate.

On the motion of Mr. MICHAEL, seconded by Mr. GEORG, Messrs. A. O'D. Gourdin and F. Henderson were re-elected auditors.

The CHAIRMAN—Dividend warrants will be ready to-morrow at ten o'clock. I thank you for your attendance.

OLIVERS FREEHOLD MINES, LIMITED.

We have received the following reports from the General Managers of work done during month of June, 1899.—

MINING.

Eureka Mine.—Very little development work has been done during the month, Mr. Roberts having advised that this should be stopped until the Rock Drills arrive, when much better progress will be made.

200-foot Level South.—Have now driven 79 feet on this new shoot of stone and am pleased to say that there is no appearance of its giving out. The channel is 6 feet wide; three feet of this is clean quartz of good grade, vide milling report. The other portion is composed of slate and small veins of stone, but very poor.

This is used for filling up the stopes. The reef is going very strong underfoot and prospects well.

Stopping and rising above this level as shown on plan. Reef continues same as in drive. Tenders have been called to extend the 150 feet South to cut the chute of stone mentioned above; expect to cut it at from 40 to 50 feet from present end. Stopes above 200 feet Level North. Reef averages about 20 inches of good payable quality.

1st Intermediate North, extended total 131 feet. Reef carrying payable gold.

Stopes above lower intermediate.—Reef averages about 2 feet of good grade ore. During the month a large amount of timbering and filling up of stopes has been done and at the end of month everything was in first class order.

MILLING AND CRUSHING.

During the month the battery has been running very regularly with 10 head, sometimes with 15 head according to instructions received from Mr. J. M. Roberts, and the month's return proves it to be more profitable to run with 10 head on high grade ore than with 20 head on low grade.

The first half of the month 182 tons of ore taken from different parts of the mine were treated producing 104.70 ozs. smelted gold being at the rate of 11.5 dwts. per ton. The average value of the Mill tailings being 2 dwts. 1 gr. per ton. The total gold recovery being 84.5 per cent.

The second half of the month 175 tons were crushed, producing 177.65 ozs. smelted gold. The battery returning at the rate of 1 oz. 0 dwts. 7 gr. per ton. The average assay value of the battery tailings being 3 dwts. 10 gr. per ton. The mill thus saving 85.5 per cent. of the total gold contents of ore. The month's crushing stands thus for mixed ore only:—

Tons crushed	357.	ozs. dwts.
Amalgam from Plates	406.15	= * 40.19 per cent.
"	Pans	368.13 = * 36.43 "
"	Boxes	236.10 = * 23.38 "

Total Amalgam 1,011.18
Yielding smelted gold 282.35 ozs. The amalgam retorting 27.9 per cent.

The ores total gold contents value being 18 dwts. 13 grs. per ton.

The battery saved 15 dwts. 19 grs. per ton.

The average Assay value of tailings being 2 dwts. 15 grs. per ton.

The mill thus saving 85.16 per cent. of the proved gold contents of the ore.

Trial Crushing.—Vide the Mining Manager's report.

Tons crushed 36.

Amalgam from Plates	57.12	= * 45.86 per cent.
"	Pans	27.6 = * 21.73 "
"	Boxes	40.14 = * 32.41 "

Total Amalgam 125.12

* Of total Amalgam.

Yielding smelted gold 40.50 ozs. The Amalgam retorting 32.2 per cent. The value of the ore being 1 oz. 6 dwts. 19 grs. per ton. The Battery saved 1 oz. 2 dwts. 12 grs. per ton. The average assay value of tailings being 0 oz. 3 dwts. 21 grs. per ton. The total extraction being equal to 85.3 per cent.

Summary for month:—Total Tons crushed 393. Yielding Amalgam 1,137 ozs. 10 dwts. Producing S. gold 322 ozs. 85 dwts. The ore crushed yielding at the rate of 16.4 dwts. per ton.

General.—During the month samples of tailings were taken and assayed, proving higher in gold contents than those treated in former months. I made several alterations in the Battery to endeavour to lower value of same, but cannot do better work with the appliances on hand, and extraction of 85 per cent. I know I am doing good work. I have tested a sample of the tailings to prove their suitability for a Cyanide treatment with the following results. With a half or three quarter per cent. solution I can extract 75.37 per cent. of the gold contents value of tailings but as they are so fine, due to the pans, the filtration is slow.

Water Supply.—The upper dam now contains about a six months' supply of water and the Battery dam about 4 months' supply; in all we have about 10 months' supply for a 20 head Battery.

Assay Department.—During the month numerous samples have been assayed from the Co.'s different mines vide assay certificates. The retorted gold has been smelted producing 322.85 ozs. smelted gold. A few small trial samples of the tailings have been treated by the Cyanide process as above explained. Both the assay and muffle furnace have been rebuilt during the month. The bricks previously used being not suitable for the intense heat. These have now been replaced by fire brick.

Engineering Work.—Sundry repairs have been done during the month to the Eureka winding winch. Queen winding engine and battery. At the battery during the month the end was broken off one of the shanks; this latter was successfully repaired on the mine.

Compressor Plant.—With the erection of this, good progress is being made. The boiler is completely set in brick, repaired where necessary, thirty-six new tubes fitted and new mountings attached and tested to a safe working pressure of 60 pounds to the sq. inch. The stack will be erected during the present week, the only thing now required being a new set of fire bars that have already been ordered. The compressor foundations have been built of brick set in cement and the compressor is in position and bolted down. All the larger parts are coupled together. We now require 4 in. steam piping to connect up with the boiler. The main shed is built over the plant and is finished with the exception of the windows, flooring, joists, doors, and ridge capping. The air receiver is in position and most of the main 6 in. piping for conveying the compressed air from the compressor to the Queen and Eureka Mines is coupled up. The main water supply tank is in position. The work that now requires to be done is to place the 3 in. piping down the Eureka shaft, crosscut and drives, piping at the Queen Mines crosscut and drives, also the piping down the "B" shaft and drives.

I have also to place in position and couple up the boiler feed pump (ordered), also the pump that is required to raise the water from the new dam to supply the boiler feed water and cooler of the air compressor. The pump for this purpose we have already on the mine.

The weather unfortunately has been very cold and bleak, which has somewhat retarded the work. I feel well satisfied with progress for the month.

JOHN D. HUMPHREYS & SON,
General Managers.

We are informed by Messrs. John D. Humphreys and Son, General Managers of Olivers Freehold Mines, Limited, that they have received the following information by telegram. The battery ran for 25 days in July, crushing 427 tons of quartz for a yield of 401 ounces retorted gold. Have struck a large body of ore in the 150 feet level south. Pannings give good results.

TEBRAU PLANTING COMPANY,
LIMITED.

The third general meeting of the shareholders in the Tebrau Planting Co., Limited, was held on Saturday at the Company's Office, 88 and 40 Queen's Road Central. Mr Hart Buck presided. The others present were:—Messrs A. H. Man-coll, E. S. Kelly, W. D. Sutton, A. P. Nobbs, E. H. Joseph, and W. C. Taylor.

The CHAIRMAN said—Gentlemen, I will with your permission adopt the usual custom and take the report and statement of accounts as read. As you have also had Mr. Larken's report in your hands for some days it will not be necessary for me to add much to what he has already told you as to the progress we are making. I notice a slight printer's error has crept into that report, the present price of coffee beans in London being printed 3s., whereas it should, of course, read 3d. You will see that it is Mr. Larken's opinion that at the present price of coffee a great number of plantations, particularly in Brazil, will have to be abandoned, when naturally the price is certain to rise, so that we may hope that by the time our plantations come into bearing the price will be back at something like its old figure, which was double that it is at present. Our principal misfortune at the present time is undoubtedly the fall in the price of gambier, our profit on which for the period under review amounts to the nominal sum of \$508. It appears to me, gentlemen, that our brightest outlook is from our para rubber trees, which unless something very unforeseen occurs are certain to give us very good results in the future. Considering the enormous increase in the demand for rubber the price is much more likely to go higher than lower, and it is very satisfactory to know that the same plant, planted in inferior soil to ours in the Botanic Gardens, Singapore, produced samples which were valued by experienced rubber dealers at the highest price then given for rubber. Although we are not at present, owing to the falling off in price of Gambier, able to pay a dividend, I do not see any reason to feel too much discouraged. It really means that we must wait patiently until our coffee and rubber come into bearing. Under the circumstances we have decided to forego our general management fees for the year, and you will notice that this item does not appear in the accounts. Before moving the adoption of the report and statement of accounts I shall be pleased to give any shareholder any information in my power.

No questions being asked, the CHAIRMAN proposed the adoption of the report and accounts. Mr. E. S. KELLY seconded, and the motion was carried.

The CHAIRMAN—That is all the business, gentlemen. Thank you for your attendance.

THE TYPHOON IN THE NORTH.

FOUNDERING OF A JAPANESE STEAMER.

Vessels arriving at Shanghai on the 22nd and 23rd July all reported having experienced heavy weather, due to the typhoon. The *Kiukaing*, from Chefoo, reported that at 5 15 a.m. on the 23rd she stopped about 5 miles E.N.E. of Gutalaff to take on board a shipwrecked boat's crew of 13 hands of the Japanese steamer *Nunobiki Maru*, of Kobe, bound from Nagasaki to Taiwan. Survivors reported ship foundered 75 miles E. by S. of the Barren Islands at noon on the 21st, through the flooding of the stokehold, the engine room skylight having been stove in by the sea. Two other boats with remainder of the crew left wreck at same time, and have not yet been heard of.

The Japanese gunboat *Takao*, which left Shanghai on the 25th July in search of the Captain and remainder of the crew of the Japanese steamer *Nunobiki Maru* that foundered on the 21st during the typhoon, returned on the 28th after a fruitless cruise. The fishermen on a number of the islands of the Chusan archipelago where the boat was likely to fetch were interrogated, but nothing could be elicited from them, and the worst is now feared.

News has since been received that one of the missing boats has been picked up by a China Navigation steamer and taken into Moji. The remaining boat has not yet been heard of.

CORRESPONDENCE.

We do not hold ourselves responsible for the opinions expressed by our correspondents.]

RATS AND PLAGUE.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—From enquiries made it is probable that Mr. Hans Rehrvoedt, who died of plague on 26th July, was infected through the medium of rats. There is just as great a necessity for disinfection of a house in which plague rats are found as if a human case had occurred in it, and this applies as much to European houses as to Chinese. In the European case usually a more limited disinfection on rational lines is required than would be necessary in a Chinese house.

All rats found dead in houses, where death is evidently not due to injury and the animal is not decomposed, should be examined to find out if they have died from plague. Until the public make a point of getting this done European cases are bound to crop up. Any rats for examination should for the present be sent to me at the office of the Medical Officer of Health in a biscuit box or some other tin box; a small amount of weak Jeye's fluid may be added.

JAMES A. LOWSON.

Hongkong, 31st July, 1899.

PIRATICAL RAIDS IN THE COLONY
AND THROUGHOUT KWANGTUNG

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—There is much to be learned by analytical reflection over the continual reports of piracy in the Colony and the neighbouring Chinese provinces, especially in Kwangtung, which more nearly affects the trade of Hongkong. To begin with the colony itself: the first view which might be taken by a superficial review would be that all these raids have arisen as a consequence of the transfer of authority in Sunon District, or to be more exact the two thirds of the Sunon District which our forethoughtless Government has continued their control to, from the control of the Chinese officials to that of Great Britain, and there are not wanting Britishers even, of that very minute body who are interested in the continuance of the *status quo*, however bad that state may be, so long as they find some personal advantage in it, who will persuade themselves and the public that the rampant state of piracy is due to the withdrawal of Chinese official supervision. The real fact is, however, that the armed robberies we hear of so much, now that our police are suppressing them and tracing the perpetrators, are a proof of the disorderly character of the district as it has been under Chinese administration. Hongkong itself was thirty or more years ago, or even at a more recent date, the scene of many such piratical raids, which only became less frequent as the raiders found that the game did not pay, being attended with too much risk. We may look to the time in the near future, if the police continue their very successful campaign against these undesirable characters, when they will again find it unprofitable to ply their trade in territory covered by the Union Jack. As a by-thought it may be said that the police are entirely dependent on the native detective branch of that useful arm of the law in tracing and arresting the perpetrators of these raids and the very commendable energy and success displayed is a distinct contrast to their total want of success in tracing and arresting the men who have been guilty of dastardly attacks on European ladies on the public thoroughfares of Hongkong. It leads one to think that the responsible heads of the police department are, at the eleventh hour, following the simple procedure of intimating to these native gentlemen that failure to do their work will result in the loss of their very lucrative posts, and not in these cases listening to the blarney which friend John is ever ready with in dealing with simpletons.

The still more daring and extensive piracies in the regions beyond the arm of the British law prove, as stated above, that it is not the withdrawal of Chinese official control from the New Territory which has resulted in an unusual amount of lawlessness there, but that a better knowledge of the district has brought the real state of

affairs to light. It is true that piracy was never so rampant in Kwangtung and all over China as it has been lately, unless we go back to the sixties, but that fact only attests to the waning power of the Chinese Government over the whole of their empire and especially the outlying provinces and points to the necessary and inevitable extension of European control.

One feature of this piracy, as it affects us locally, is the fact that in all, or nearly all, the cases traced the pirates have been traced in junks or found to be connected with junks. This points to the urgent necessity of all the islands surrounding this colony being brought under the British flag, for all such is the case they are always likely to become the base of some piratical gang who can sail away there to enjoy the proceeds of their raids, safe out of reach of the police. The efforts of the police would be rendered far more effective, likewise, were all the small valleys abutting on Miao Bay and Deep Bay under their control. This would be best effected by taking over that portion of the Sunon District which our legislators in their folly, have left outside of the British boundary. Sunon District, as a study of a good map will show, has a very strange winding boundary abutting on the two districts immediately to the north of it, and investigation of the physical features of the country will point out that the reason is a simple one, for the boundary is formed by a chain of mountains having peaks averaging between 2,000 and 3,000 feet in height and forming a natural barrier between it and the districts of Tung-koon and Weishan. All the valleys in the eastern portion of the district about Miao Bay and nearly all on the west about Deep Bay; there are two small valleys in the west which about on the bay immediately to the north of Deep Bay, which bay thus falls in the Sunon District.

OLD CHINA HAND.

Hongkong, 31st July, 1899.

THE SANITARY STAFF OF
HONGKONG.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—I notice that the question of the efficiency or otherwise of the sanitary inspection staff of Hongkong is being discussed. May I make a few remarks?

1st.—It is a mistake to compare Hongkong with its densely over-crowded masses of ignorant Chinese with a Western European city of the same number of population. Nothing is more easy to say than this: Birmingham, Dublin, Bradford, or a half dozen other cities are similar in point of population to Hongkong; therefore as these English towns have only a single Health Officer, Hongkong also can do with one such official. The comparisons are absolutely inaccurate and totally unjust. In 250,000 western citizens there would be probably some 200 physicians daily practicing their profession, and reporting day by day on sanitary shortcomings brought to their notice. In our crowded Chinese working class population there is practically not a single such physician. Unfortunately we have not yet a real Medical School for Chinese. We have nothing but densely crowded masses of ignorant Chinese living in a terribly crowded condition and amongst whom no ray of intelligent light breaks in. Further, amongst 250,000 English citizens there would be probably a score of parishes with their parsons, curates, &c., all visiting districts, reporting neglect and often urging forward reforms. What have we in our densely packed masses to correspond with this? Simply nothing of the kind.

Furthermore, every city of similar size in England would have its municipal divisions into wards and sub-districts, each with their aldermen, and common councillors, and these persons at their periodical elections would either urge forward—or perhaps sometimes oppose—drainage and sanitary reform schemes. At any rate there would be intelligent discussion. Have we here nothing of the kind. Everywhere deadly ignorance. Everywhere absolute want of all that English civilisation means, or is by some supposed to mean.

But in addition to doctors and parsons, the aldermen and the municipal councillors we would have in England the trades union

workmen's associations themselves urging forward sanitary inspection in their districts, asking that the overcrowded sanitary workshops may be inspected and placed under the control of the Health Officer. Every trade and calling are crying out that their lives may be made safer and I hope happier than in our bitter past, and everywhere light is breaking through the darkness and improvement is coming.

To compare then a progressive English city with our unfortunate plague-stricken mass of ignorant Chinamen is absurd and fatally injurious to the real well being of this colony.

That a well-to-do English community like Hongkong should consent to allow a single doctor to slave and toil as their Health Official single-handed at the task which Dr. Clark has this summer endeavoured to carry out is a sin against humanity, and is inexcusable at the present day.

I do not suppose that the people of this city wish to class themselves with the petty minded poor-law guardians of a wretched obsolete Bumbled whom at times grind the faces of the English poor and construe in the cruelest way every Act of Parliament passed by the nation to benefit the pauper class of our wealthy England. Hongkong at any rate talks otherwise. It has its Navy League, the China Association, the Chamber of Commerce. It makes fine speeches on the Imperial idea and the splendour of our Empire and forwards unceasing representations to the various Governing bodies of the Empire. Yet here in its own city it seems to act in its municipal matters like some fifth rate rotten borough which grinds down its officials, overworks them, refuses them leave, and sets one doctor with a terribly weak and insufficient staff of a dozen inspectors to attempt to deal with a severe plague outbreak which has killed up to date 1,200 of our Chinese fellow-townsmen. Could anything be more unjust, or anything more unfair or more unworthy of all that English civilisation is said in speeches to mean?

There is a Parliament in England struggling to do justice and to advance the well being and the good of the whole Empire. This Parliament is quite easily acted upon and I feel sure if its members knew the disgraceful facts of the condition of this plague-stricken city it would in one sitting sweep away any obstructions that barr the road to progress and improvement. Mr. Chamberlain may or may not be a potent influence in the Ministry, but, powerful though he be, he is powerless if knowing all the facts he backs up and maintains the hopeless conditions of his Chinese fellow-citizens in this distant Colony which he seems to control as an absolute king. But were he ten times as powerful a true statement of the conditions of the Chinese here with their shameful overcrowding, their terrible rack-renting, their degrading and publicly exposed immorality, their want of latrine accommodation causing great physical suffering, the want of baths and open spaces for the masses of the people, Parliament would hurt him from his seat, and would be right in doing if he be the real obstructive, and as his name is continually brought up as being responsible we must throw the blame on him.

But the people of the colony are able if they desire it to urge forward reform. I have not seen a word from the China Association as to the regrettable sickness of the place. The Navy League wish to man the Navy, but overlook as of no value 1,200 dead Chinamen lying literally at their door in a great Naval depot. The Chamber of Commerce are keen on the West River and Kowloon Extension, but so far as I am aware not one word have they said of the dead Chinamen that are found daily in our streets and which constitute the gravest charge against the administration of the place. Surely it is possible for some of these absolutely independent bodies to address the Premier, Lord Salisbury, direct and tell him of the plain unvarnished facts of the case and get a proper administration of sanitary matters set up, let Mr. Chamberlain object however much he may.

It is unjust in the highest degree to expect any Health Officer, however energetic, single-handed to cope with the special conditions of this crowded city. He needs ample help, and we

should give it to him fully, and then having done so make him completely responsible.

I hope this matter will be now fully dealt with. The more it is discussed the better, but every citizen of the place has on a share in the heavy responsibility if he allow another year to come upon us with a recurrence of the terrible inefficiency and paucity of staff of this past year 1898, one of the most painful records of failure and want of intelligent grasp I have ever heard or read of in recent years in any part of the world.

OVERWORK AND OVERSTRAIN.
Hongkong, 1st August, 1899.

A MAP WANTED.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE "DAILY PRESS."

SIR,—At a time when it is so essential for a proper understanding of the question of the extension of British authority over a further portion of the mainland opposite to us it seems a great pity that no good map or chart shewing how Hongkong is placed as regards the adjoining Chinese districts, or the physical features of those districts, is available for the public. Surely after holding this colony for sixty years it is too bad to find that no chart showing correctly the waters adjacent to the colony and the heights of the hills is obtainable for love or money. Why this neglect to provide for so necessary a want?

RESIDENT.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1899.

THE CHINESE CUSTOMS AT TSINTAU.

A paragraph appears in the *Ostasiatische Lloyd* of the 22nd July explaining that the proceedings at the inauguration of the Chinese Custom-house at Tsintau possessed no official significance. The Commissioner half-an-hour before the opening invited the Governor and a few others officials and their wives to drink a glass of wine with him, and a few accepted the invitation. It seems to have been thought later that the impromptu was not of an altogether happy description, and that in particular the flag-hoisting might have been omitted. For the rest, as our contemporary is informed, the affair possessed no official character so far as Germany was concerned, as has since been represented by the *Engl.* (The latter appears to be an allusion to the strictures of the *N. C. Daily News*.)

In the same issue our contemporary has a long leading article in reply to one that appears in the *N. C. Daily News* and which was reproduced in the *Daily Press*.

After a few introductory remarks recalling a previous article and representing that the arrangement with the Customs has not yet been in force long enough to allow a definite opinion upon its working to be formed, the article goes on to say that the fact that the arrangement is only provisional proves that the German Government has not acted blindly in the matter or without the determination to take all the circumstances into consideration. Nor were the provisional regulations decided upon without the wishes of the merchants being ascertained; on the contrary, the matter was placed before the merchants and various alterations made to meet their views, as in the matter of the verification of original invoices. After some further reference to the alleged unfriendly attitude of the *N. C. Daily News* the article goes on to say that it is absolutely false to say that Tsintau is not a free port or to place it in the same category as a treaty port. The import of goods in the German territory, with the exception of opium, arms, and ammunition, is absolutely free. No one has any right to interfere with the landing of goods or to impose any tax upon them. Not until the goods are sent from German territory into China are they called upon to pass through the Customs and to pay the duty that the Chinese Customs collect on imports. It is the same with regard to exports: all goods originating in the German territory can be exported duty free. That exports which do not originate in German territory but come

from the Chinese province of Shantung are subject to export duty is the affair of the Chinese Government, but if payment has to be made, that the exporter should be able to arrange the matter himself in the commercial town in which he dwells is to the interest and not to the prejudice of the merchants of Tsintau. The case is exactly the same with imports destined for the interior of China, which can clear the Customs in Tsintau. Here also the advantage is on the side of the merchant. The German administration has no interest either in the collection or application of the Customs revenue; that appertains solely to the Chinese Government. Then there comes the question of the control of the trade in opium, arms, and ammunition. These articles in German territory are either subject to duty or to certain restrictions. To establish a German Custom-house for the control of opium, arms, etc., a costly and complicated machinery would be necessary, whereas the Chinese Customs already has this machinery, and to avail of it promises many advantages, but that the Government was not thoughtless in the matter appears from its having reserved the right to take the control into its own hands should it think fit. The article then goes on to refer to the value of trade statistics, the collection of which is provisionally undertaken by the Chinese Customs. The ship has to supply a copy of her manifest, and within a week the importer has to furnish particulars as to classification, value, weight, numbers—and in future, it is said, also the origin—of the goods. There can be no question of any molestation of the merchant under these circumstances. Apart from the furnishing of statistics the merchant in Tsintau has no greater obligations thrown upon him than he has in the vaunted free port of Hongkong. No words need be wasted in dwelling upon the value of statistics; the advantages attendant upon them so greatly outweigh the small inconvenience of the compulsory declaration, that there is no unfairness, in the common interest, in demanding the latter. The object the Government has had in view has been the facilitating of the import and export business. If the expectations entertained are realised the provisional regulations will be made definite; if, on the other hand, modifications are shown to be necessary the right to make such modifications is reserved in the agreement, and it is not to be supposed for one instant that the Government will disregard the interests of the merchants. Comment has been made on the fact that the German Government should have taken the important step of admitting the Chinese Customs to Tsintau at the very moment that the British Government is removing them from Hongkong. In the first place we dispute, says our contemporary, that the circumstances of the two places are identical, the conditions under which the Chinese customs have hitherto worked in Hongkong being essentially different from those under which they have been admitted to Tsintau. Also the fact must not be ignored that at Hongkong the termination of the present customs situation there is not universally deemed desirable. A long extract is then given from an article that appeared in the *Daily Press* of the 20th June, in the course of which it was said:—"We would not like to see the Chinese Customs in control of the trade by foreign vessels in Hongkong, but we have never been able to understand why obstructions should be placed in the way of the Customs collecting the just dues of the Chinese Government on cargo carried by native craft to Chinese ports since the collection has been placed in the hands of the Foreign Customs," and in which reference was also made to the *modus vivendi* proposed by the Chamber of Commerce and to its being to the interest of all parties that the frontier relations should be conducted on an amicable and honest basis. Our German contemporary also quotes a paragraph which appeared in *N. C. Daily News* when the announcement was first made that the Customs were to be established at Tsintau in which the opinion was expressed that the decision was a very wise one, that the experience of the Chinese Customs would be of advantage to the German authorities, and that the arrangement would facilitate the development of trade in the new territory. Since then, says the *Ostasiatische Lloyd*, nothing has come to pass that calls for a reversal of the judgment then expressed.

The following letter appears in the *N. C. Daily News*.

Sir,—In the opening line of your leader of the 11th inst. (July) headed "The Custom-house at Tsintau, you put the question "What is a free port?" and referring to Hongkong and Singapore as examples you come to the conclusion that because a Custom-house functions here this is not a free port and is likely to prove a failure.

There are different kinds of free ports in different parts of the world, the arrangements of which differ widely according to local circumstances and the interests involved. If a free port to which all nationalities alike have free access, and where goods enjoy the greatest possible freedom from taxation, I maintain that Tsintau is as free as Hongkong or Singapore, if not more so. It is a mere question of figures—which I shall prove further on.

You rightly refer to the wise forethought of the German Emperor to whom the country owes the possession of Kiaochow; and in making it a free port you "suppose that it was the success and prosperity of Hongkong and Singapore that appealed to the intelligence of the Emperor; and that he saw that to make his new colony at Tsintau a similar success, there should be no Custom-house there." In this supposition you are wrong, for it was the Home Government—no Minister or official out here—that decided that the Custom-house should be at Tsintau, and for very good reasons.

From the very beginning the German Government realized the great difference between ports like Hongkong and Singapore, and Tsintau. The one a magnificent natural harbour at the mouth of one of China's great rivers controlling the commerce of South China, and on the grand ocean highway controlling the commerce of two hemispheres; the other a small fishing port with a bad anchorage, with no river useful for water carriage, at the mouth of a large bay of which one half is a mud flat, and above all situated in an out-of-the-way corner of the mainland far away from any ocean highway!

Hongkong has become the great success it is, so to speak, of itself and without any grandly preconceived plan on which its prosperity has been built up. The thanks of the British nation are due chiefly to the man who selected it—not so much to its legislators (many of whom were no doubt capable and excellent men), nor to the absence of a Customs house. Its natural position made it a success.

Here the problem to be solved was very different. Here it meant. How bring trade? How draw commerce to Tsintau? the out-of-the-way fishing village with no trade routes or even postal connection inland, away alike from high roads and sea routes. Wisely the German Government after careful investigation and consideration of these facts, and in virtue of Article V. of the Treaty of the 6th of March in which it had engaged to arrange for the collection of Customs duties "in a manner which will safeguard all the interests of China," elected—rather than establish Customs barriers inland and thereby still further separating it from the hinterland—to have a Custom-house at Tsintau managed by Germans and therefore, so to speak, under its own supervision and on its own terms.

What are these terms, what advantages does this arrangement secure, and what disadvantages of obligations does it involve for the Colony?

The terms are that there shall be no customs frontier between the German *Pachtgebiet* and the hinterland; that there shall be a German-officered Custom-house at Tsintau; that goods intended for the hinterland shall pay duty at Tsintau and that goods from the hinterland shall come in free without hindrance, and shall pay duty only when shipped away. The advantages of this arrangement are obvious; by placing the Custom-house at Tsintau trade is centralized there, and by having no Custom-house at the frontier the inhabitants of the German *Pachtgebiet*—Chinese and Non-Chinese at present numbering about 100,000 and in years to come perhaps a million—secure duty-free supplies of every kind of description, of all their necessities whatsoever for their own use, for their trades, for their industries, manufactures, and raw produce, silk and

strawbraid, coal and iron, etc.; in fact all that the hinterland (in the widest sense of the word) produces, and future railways may be able to profitable carry; comes in free. Furthermore, merchants importing native goods from natives ports can secure half-duty treatment for them when sent inland, or free re-export to another Chinese port, by bringing them to the Custom-house on arrival.

In other words, the arrangement secures for Tsintau both free import by sea and free import by land, combining all the real advantages of a free port with those of a Treaty Port. These facts translated into figures mean a saving to everybody in the Colony, and advantages to that extent over the inhabitants of Hongkong to the extent of 5 per cent on all dutiable goods whatsoever from the hinterland and consumed in the Colony, and of 2½ per cent duty on all native produce from Chinese ports landed at Tsintau for export to the hinterland.

The obligation involved is the control of the shipment of export cargo, which eventually, when the new docks now in progress are ready, it is proposed to transfer to docks and godowns. A further control of the shipping is necessitated, here as in Hongkong, by the Opium Ordinance, the execution of which the Government has entrusted likewise to its German-Chinese Custom-house. I leave it to your own sense of fairness to decide—if you will take the trouble to read the very sensible arrangements sketched out in the Opium Ordinance—which is the lesser evil, the native opium farmer's Police force as in Hongkong or the European-officered Customs service as here.

These are the broad facts. The arrangement is novel, no doubt, and its success is largely depending upon the continuation on both sides that fair-mindedness and honesty of purpose which has characterized the whole proceedings. As to who has got the best of the bargain, Germany or China, I leave every reader to decide for himself.—I am, etc,

TSINTAU.

Tsintau, 16th July.

In the same issue of the *N. C. Daily News* as that in which the above appears there is also a news letter from Tsintau in which the following occurs:—

There is a leading article in our weekly gazette of the 21st July "The Custom-house at Tsintau" in answer to your article of the 11th. It is written by the hand of an official and not by a merchant, every intelligent merchant being of only one opinion—the Custom house at Tsintau is not a success but merely a disadvantage for our place, its location should be on the frontier, not here. If we wish to have a similar success to that of Hongkong, Tsintau must become an entirely free port. The future will prove this very soon, I hope.

THE STRANDING OF THE BONAVENTURE.

A private letter from an officer in the fleet with Admiral Seymour, which has been kindly put at our (*N. C. Daily News*) disposal, says:—

Vladivostok, 8th July.

"We were going into Korniloff, and she was the fourth ship of the line. When we got just inside the entrance, the *Bonaventure* was ordered to haul out of the line and come up abreast of the flagship. She increased speed to 12 knots to pass us, when just as she got abreast, she stopped dead, her stern down, and there she was stuck fast with a rock through her bottom. The *Aurora* and *Undaunted* have been trying to tow her off for the last three days, but have got no forwarder. It's very bad luck on them, as everything is in an awful state on board, the ship full of working parties from the fleet working day and night, hoisting out guns, ammunition, boats, etc., and throwing coal overboard."

The *Nagasaki Express* of the 24th July says:—H.M.S. *Orlando* and *Bonaventure* arrived here early this morning from Korniloff Bay, where the latter vessel had been ashore on the rocks. The injuries sustained are not of a serious nature, and the vessel will be repaired in the local dock.

The same paper in its issue of the 25th says:—Owing to the pressure of business at the local dockyards, H.M.S. *Bonaventure* will not be able to dock until next Saturday, and the extent of

her injuries cannot be ascertained until she is docked. She was four days on the rocks near Korniloff Bay, despite the efforts of the largest vessels of the squadron to remove her. The ammunition, stores, &c., were taken from her and the vessel had to be considerably tilted before she was released from her dangerous position. She was temporarily repaired on the spot, and then proceeded under her own steam to this port, conveyed by the *Orlando*, where she arrived this morning.

The *N. C. Daily News* says:—By a private letter from Nagasaki we learn that the *Bonaventure* is likely to be three or four weeks there undergoing temporary repairs, and will then go to Hongkong where she is likely to spend three or four months being put thoroughly right, at a probable cost of £8,000 to £10,000. After that she expects to come to Shanghai, and it is needless to say that this is the coming event to which the midshipmen on board are looking forward most eagerly.

THE "WOODLARK'S" VOYAGE.

The Hankow correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—

The most interesting event here of late has been the return of the *Woodlark* from a three weeks' tour on the rivers of Hunan. Some five years ago, when Consul Gardner proposed sending the *Bak* into Hunan, there was a terrible rumour. H.E. Chang Chih-tung, moved heaven and earth to prevent it. He was sure that the appearance of a foreign ship on the Hunan waters would be the signal for rebellion, massacre, and the opening of the flood-gates of destruction generally. Of course, no-one here believed him, but they did in London, so when all was ready for a start, the telegrams came pelting out to stop the expedition, stopped it was. In the same way, when it was intimated that the *Woodlark* was going to Hunan, His Excellency took fright and did his best to scare them out of the project; but this time the same success did not attend his effort; our naval authority heard what he had to say, but sent the gunboat all the same, with the result that the *Woodlark* were able to go wherever they had a mind to, stay where they pleased, and come safely back without meeting with the least unpleasantness anywhere. When they reached Yochu, at the entrance of the Tungting Lake, the Chinese authorities kindly provided them with an escort of a dozen braves in a sampan—as the small guard-boats here are called. The sampan was tied to the stern of the *Woodlark*, and and proved sufficient protection from all enemies till she was safely out of the province again, Solomon to the contrary, it was surely something "new under the sun" to see a British gunboat under the wing of a Chinese sampan, but it was a good idea all the same. Neither party wanted any trouble and the sampan was the best way of conveying the hint to the people that they were to behave themselves. The *Woodlark* first went up the Siang to Changsha, the capital, then turned back and worked round the lake to Changtefu. At all the cities they came to they stopped to visit the officials on shore, and receive visits from them, and after a good look at the various rivers flowing into the Tungting came back again to Hankow with no adventures to report.

FOREIGN ENTERPRISE AND BRITISH SIAGNATION AT HANKOW.

The Hankow correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—

There is nothing much doing on the British Concession, but on the French the buildings are going up at an astonishing rate. The Russian Concession has now been letted and allotted, and we shall soon see great changes there also. The railway people expect to receive their metals almost immediately, and promise to have trains running northward before long. Whatever enterprises there are going on seem all to be in non-British hands. Hankow is rapidly ceasing to be a British centre. One has only to walk along the bund and note how out of every three groups of people met, two will be talking French or Russian instead of English, which a few years ago was the only language heard. However, we have no right to

complain of this. If our people can find no opening for their enterprise in this centre, it would be mean to stand in the way of those who can. Fair play to all, and the battle be to him who has the longest gun.
24th July.

THE "OPENING" OF YUCHOU.

The Hankow correspondent of the *N. C. Daily News* writes:—

Yochou is not to be opened to commerce after all, but a small town five miles below it called Ch'engliachi, opposite Chinghok'ou where the main river from Ichang joins the Tungting waters. It is not likely to make much difference to the amount of trade to be done there. All the Hunan trade comes from beyond the Lake, and it is not likely that traders would stop at either place when already half-way to Hankow. The country behind Yochou is poor and roadless. The people have little to sell, and still less have they any spare money to buy with. Where the trade is expected to come from is a mystery. The truth appears to be that it is another case of make-believe; the Chinese are aiming at opening Yunan in such a way as will leave it shut up "all the same fashion" aforesaid.

THE JAPANESE PRESS ON TREATY REVISION.

There are in the vernacular newspapers some more or less interesting pictorial representations of the new order of things in Japan. The best is in the *Jiji*. A wide open door is represented with cross flags overhead, surmounted by the English word "Welcome." A representative of Young Japan, in a dress suit, stands at the threshold inviting a procession of foreigners to enter. First come four ladies in low-necked dresses—but it is a terrible libel on the Aryan type of beauty. Behind these four comes *La belle France*, half of whose face the artist has considerably hidden with a fan. Then come the male figures. John Bull and Uncle Sam are dancing along, arm in arm, as though they had had an evening out together. The German representative is just behind, also in a dancing attitude, but if we interpret the Russian attitude correctly it is represented as one of aloofness. In the *Tokyo Mainichi* there are three small illustrations representing different periods. In the first a samurai is represented with a hand upon his sword gazing fiercely at a retreating foreigner. In the second picture we have the foreigner looking out from a curtained window, and a Japanese standing outside gnashing his teeth. The third picture shows the same foreigner, hat in hand, apparently applying to a Japanese to direct him somewhere, and the Japanese is smilingly pointing the way.—*Hiogo News*.

SAIGON.

[FROM A CORRESPONDENT.]

Saigon, 27th July.

Business is very bad just now, and a good many failures amongst the Chinese are reported, for which the generally slack state of the market may be the reason. The Annamite planters are not in a hurry to sell their paddy and as they are mostly rich they can afford to wait.

It has been excessively hot lately. Everybody is longing for rain.

On Tuesday, 25th July, there was much bustle and commotion on the quay, when the body of the late Mr. Ong Ka-tiong, the senior partner of the firm of Ban Soon An and owner of one of the principal rice mills, was transferred with great pomp and ceremony to the steamer *Sishan*, Captain Jones, for conveyance to China. Although the steamer's destination was Hongkong she was specially chartered to proceed first to Amoy to hand the body over to the family. Mr. Ong Ka-tiong died on the 7th July, aged forty-five years, and greatly respected by all who knew him.

A Russian spy was caught by a Chinese at Weihaiwei taking photographs. He was arrested and taken to Chefoo by H.M.S. *Rattler* and handed over to the Russian Consul there.—*N. C. Daily News*.

SANDAKAN NOTES.

[FROM OUR CORRESPONDENT.]

Sandakan, 26th July.

The ex-Spanish steamer *Churruca* has been in here with several American army officers on board, including Capt. Fabriger, the head of the Public Works in the Philippines. The steamer sailed on the evening of the 26th inst. for Sulu.

On Saturday, the 22nd inst., one of the shore labourers employed discharging the German steamer *Labuan* (late *Kanee*) fell from the upper deck into the after hold, striking the funnel in his fall. The unfortunate Chinaman lies in a precarious condition.

HONGKONG.

The report of the Principal Civil Medical Officer for 1898, with the reports of the various sub-departments, is published in the *Gazette*.

At the Magistracy Thursday a Chinese doctor was charged with not reporting a case of plague on which he was attending. Dr. Lowson and Inspector Brett gave evidence. His Worship was about to impose a fine of \$20 when defendant said he wished to call witnesses, and the case was accordingly adjourned.

The water police made another seizure of arms on 27th July and the delinquents were brought before Mr. Gompertz at the Magistracy on the 28th July. Defendants were in a boat off West Point, and on a Chinese constable searching the boat he found in it 46 rifles, 50 revolvers, and 900 rounds of ammunition.

A *Gazette* extraordinary was issued yesterday afternoon containing the Governor's assent, given in the name and on behalf of the Queen, to the Ordinance to continue the Hongkong and Shanghai Bank Ordinance 1899. The Ordinance was passed at yesterday's meeting of the Legislative Council and refers to the issue of bank notes.

It is notified in the *Gazette* the H. E. the Governor has been pleased to make the following promotions in the Volunteer Corps, with effect from 25th May:—Lieutenant Donald Macdonald to be Captain in the Field Battery, vice Chapman promoted; Sergeant John Henry William Armstrong to be Lieutenant in the Field Battery, vice Macdonald, promoted.

At midnight on the 10th July three houses were broken into at the village of Kutong, which is near to the uttermost station in the new territory, and some \$70 stolen. The offenders were seven men who carried arms and terrorised the occupants of the houses into giving up their money. One man was arrested and brought before Mr. Gompertz at the Magistracy on Monday, and remanded.

The *N. C. Daily News* of the 25th July says:—The P. M. S. *China*, which left Hongkong on the 18th inst. and did not arrive here until yesterday morning, managed successfully to evade the typhoon. Captain Seabury found himself, when off Amoy, running right into the disturbance and, expecting it to travel in a northerly direction, hauled the vessel out East, and then hove her to. The vessel after a number of hours was again brought on her course, and it was then noticed the typhoon was stationary, consequently the ship was hove to a second time, as nothing could be done without running the ship through the dangerous zone and causing the passengers unnecessary discomfort. A nasty cross sea was experienced, but the vessel proved herself to be an admirable seaboat, the passengers being loud in her praise on arrival here.

New regulations for public vehicles are published in the *Gazette*. The fare for a chair with two bearers in the city is now 10 cents for a quarter-of-an-hour, 20 cents for half-an-hour, 25 cents for one hour, 50 cents for three hours, 70 cents for six hours, and \$1 for a day of twelve hours. Under the old tariff the fare was 10 cents for half-an-hour and 20 cents for an hour, the rates for longer engagements being the same both in the new and old tariffs. In the Hill District the fares, which were formerly 15 cents for half-an-hour and 30 cents for an hour, have been increased to 15 cents for a quarter-of-an-hour and 20 cents for half-an-hour, the hour fare remaining unaltered. The scale for jinrickshas remains the same as before in the city.

Dr. Lowson is now Acting Medical Officer of Health, Dr. Clark having gone on short leave to Amoy.

The only case of communicable disease reported last week, in addition to plague, was one of enteric fever.

At the Magistracy on Saturday Mr. Gompertz, on the application of Dr. Clark (Medical Officer of Health), made the necessary orders declaring the ground floors of Nos. 2, 3, and 4, Tung Tak lane, unfit for human habitation.

On Monday a police officer who was on the look-out for suspicious characters in the Botanical Gardens took two men in custody and found them in possession of a quantity of cayenne pepper.

On Monday afternoon Mr. G. J. W. King offered for sale by auction Inland Lot No. 135, which is situate in Queen's Road East and contains 1,050 square feet, annual rent \$14. Mr. Au Fong Tak was the purchaser for \$550—\$20 above the upset price.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The new Chinese cruiser *Haitien*, similar to H.M.S. *Bonaventure*, arrived at Chefoo on the 20th July. The foreign sailors and firemen with which she was manned were brought to Shanghai per steamer *Kiukiang en route* for England.

In another column, says the *N. C. Daily News* of the 24th July, will be found the notice of the premature death at the age of 28 of Mr. Arthur Lewis Cooper, brother of Dr. Cooper of Shanghai. Mr. A. L. Cooper has been for some years in the service of the Indo-China S. N. Co., and was one of the officers of the steamer *Onwo* when she was sunk by the *Newchwang* at Woosung, and he never completely recovered the shock he received on that occasion.

The Chungking correspondent of the *China Gazette* writing on the 10th July says:—We have heard with deep regret of the death of the Rev. E. O. Williams, M.A., of C.I.M., Pa-cheo, which took place at his station on the evening of 30th June from typhoid fever. Mr. Williams gave up the rectorship of a flourishing congregation in Leeds, England, about ten years ago to give his life for the evangelization of the Chinese. He leaves a widow and six sons, with whom we deeply sympathize in this sore bereavement.

The *China Gazette* of 24th July says:—Yesterday afternoon word was received at the British Consulate that pilot boat No. 4 was ashore on the South Bank; her only European occupant (Pilot W. Roberts) adding that the vessel was being pirated by the people in the vicinity, against whom he begged for protection. Mr. Carvill, the Shipping Vice-Consul, lost no time in obtaining the services of a tug boat, on which he put Consular Constable Brunn and two Municipal police officers, and sent her away to the assistance of the disabled craft. Up to the time of going to press they had not returned.

A fatal bicycle accident has occurred at Singapore. On the afternoon of the 19th July Mr. M. B. Monteiro, a Eurasian assistant at Messrs. J. P. Kilgour & Co., Battery-road, was riding a bicycle along the Esplanade from Cavanagh Bridge in the direction of Kampong Glam, and was crossing the road between the S. C. C. Pavilion and the Monument, when a horse and dogcart driven by a Malay named Mahomed Isahak was suddenly and sharply turned round, with the result that the bicycle collided with the vehicle, the right shaft of which pierced the body of the unfortunate cyclist. Mr. Monteiro, who was terribly injured, was taken to the General Hospital, where he died on the 21st. Mahomed Isahak stands charged with having caused the death of Mr. Monteiro by doing a rash or negligent act not amounting to culpable homicide.

COMMERCIAL.

TEA.

SHANGHAI, 29th July.—(From Messrs. Welch, Lewis & Co.'s Circular.)—Black Tea.—Business has been restricted by the absence of common qualities, which are wanted for shipment to the United States. The lowest quotation in the market is Tls. 17, but the chief settlements have been Second Crop Ningbowns at Tls. 18/23, very good value being obtainable about Tls. 21/22. The second crop from these districts being above

the average in quality. Second crop Keemuns have not yet been dealt in as Teamen want last year's prices. Tls. 23/24, for this year's Teas, which are inferior in quality. Hankow district second crop Teas have been bought at Hankow entirely by Russian houses; the demand was so good that parcels have rarely been on offer for more than a few hours, each day's arrivals being sold before the evening.

Settlements reported since 17th July:—
Ningchow... 2,724 1/2-chest, Tl. 18 a 23.
Wenchow... 307 " " 17/17 1/2
Canton... 307 " " 18 1/2

3,338 1/2-chests.

Stock represented by muster: 15,558 half-chests, against last year 12,198 half-chests.

Green Tea.—A late London telegram reports a decline of about 25 per cent. in values of common Moyune Young Hysons, and Twankays compared with early March sales, whilst fine lines show a little improvement. Nearly the whole of the settlements on this market have been for shipment to the United States and Canada. Pingsueys.—The demand has been good enough to keep prices up to a level with opening rates, and Teamen are firm holders, as their advices from the Country confirm the rumours as to the falling off in quality of second crops. Settlements to date are large compared with those of a few previous years, but it is only a sign of trade resuming its natural course after the disturbing influences of the late seasons. It is no indication of largely increased supplies. Country Teas.—The feature of the interval has been the arrival of a few chops from the Moyune districts. These Teas are distinctly good in quality and stand out from the ordinary Tienkai in a way to command attention. More care has been given to make of the first Young Hysons, probably following on the low prices obtained for Foong Mees last year. Tea prices on the whole are about the same as those ruling at the early part of last season, with the disadvantage of a higher exchange, but choice chops will probably be bought at Tls. 2/3 under last season's prices. Tienkai have been readily saleable at Tls. 2 1/4 a 2 3/4 a picul, but there is not much to be said in their favor. Fychows find buyers at Tls. 18 1/2 a 2 1/4, and their only attraction is the price. Teamen are said to be making moderate profits and are satisfied with present rates. Local packs are neglected. Hysons.—It is difficult to assign any reason for the erratic buying in this market, and no system of values is applicable to it at present. A straw colored liquor which does not cloud as it cools, and delicate flavor will make a Tea worth Tls. 50 or Tls. 73 a picul, and the fancy price is the outcome of competition between two buyers. As the natives remark, selling Hysons is "Joss pidgin," but where high prices are obtained it enables the Teamen to sell the rest of his chop at a reasonable price, and at the same time to make a fair profit.

Settlements reported from 17th July are:—
1/2-chests. at Tls.

Pingsuey	11,431	21.50 a 26.75
Local packed	2,042	19.75 a 22.00
Fychow	823	18.75 a 21.25
Tienkai	5,593	21.00 a 24.50
Moyune	1,395	21.25 a 28.00

21,284

Total Settlements from opening of the season to date are:—

	1898	1899.	Settlements.	Stock.
	1/2-chests.	1/2-chests.		
Pingsuey	37,007		12,684	
Local packed	8,117		2,625	
Fychow	6,176			
Tientsin	5,593		8,520	
Moyune	1,395			
Total	57,288		23,81	

	1897	1898.	Settlements.	Stock.
	1/2-chests.	1/2-chests.		
Pingsuey	12,664		18,956	
Local packed	8,258		4,029	
Fychow	4,033			
Tientsin	1,621		7,362	
Moyune	145			
Total	26,721		30,347	

SILK.

Canton, 21st July, 1899.—Tentacles and Reels.—No stocks; quotations only nominal. Reels No. 1 Grant: there are orders on the market at \$715, but dealers refuse to sell.

Filatures.—Have been in very little enquiry during the last fortnight. Supplies coming in slowly, and dealers finding no inducement to sell at present rates, all grades hold their own fairly well. From prices paid we quote: \$935/925 for Miu King Lun 11/13 and 13/15, \$900 for Kwong Sun On 13/15, \$890 for Kai Cheong Loong 10/12 and King Wo 13/15, \$88 for How King Cheong 13/15 and Wing King Lun 13/15, \$880 for Kwong Ho 16/18, \$830 for Victoria 22/26, \$825 for Hing Lun and Quan Hing 11/13, \$800 for Yu Ye Lun and How Tai Loong 20/24, \$80 for Good No. 3 11/13 and 13/15, \$780 for Wai Lun King 18/22, \$720 for Good No. 3 16/20. Short-reels.—A slight revival is noticeable in the demand for Short-reels for America during the past week. A few lots of Best No. 2 chops 14/16 found buyers at \$8.0. Some Good No. 2 14/16 at \$8.3. 11A Filatures 14/18 and 16/20 have been in fair enquiry at \$7.0/7.25. Waste.—Quiet and if anything slightly weaker. Prices are very irregular according to quality, which is so mixed that it is almost impossible to give reliable quotations.

SHANGHAI, 29th July.—(From Messrs. A. R. Burkill & Sons' Circular).—The Home markets are quiet and quotations remain unchanged. Raw Silk.—The market is very quiet, but holders seem quite content to wait, and are not anxious to sell. A small business has been done in Coarse Silks. Yellow Silk.—The demand keeps good and some 250 bales have been settled. Arrivals, as per Customs Returns, July 22nd to 28th, are: 2,290 bales White, 432 bales Yellow and 417 bales Wild Silks. Re-reels and hand Filatures.—Nothing doing. Steam Filatures.—Some 200/300 bales have been settled during the past ten days, prices are steady. The Export of Steam Filatures to date is: 727 bales to America, 522 bales to the Continent, and 10 bales to England. Wild Silk.—About 160 bales have changed hands. Waste Silk.—The market is quiet, holders still ask very high rates. Frisonnets are in good demand, and business has been done at Tls 27 for whole bales. Curries No. 1 have been settled at Tls. 63/64.

Prices calculated by Maerten's Tables at 11 per cent. Exchange 2/9 1/2 Freight Tls. 7.25 per bale.

Hangchow Tentacles.—	Tls.	Stg.
Lanhook	495	11/9 1/2
Lanping	475	11/4
Tayssan		
9 by 12 Moss, Double Butterfly 2	407 1/2	9/10
Skeins.—		
Blue Monster 1	357 1/2	8/7 1/2
Yellow Silk.—		
Tunglo	\$70 a 405	8/11 a 9/8 1/2
Mianchow 1	385	9/3
Yellow Silk.—		
Moeyang 1	240	8/2 1/2
Wongchow 1	241	6/0
Steam Filatures.—		
First Choice, 9/11, 10/12, 13/15—		
882 1/2 830/847 1/2 20/3, 20/2, 19/10 1/2	57.40, 58.00,	
Second Choice, 13/15	845	19/10
Third " 13/15	830	19/6
Wild Silk.—		
Tussah Filatures, 8 Cocoons	245/285	6/0 a 6/5 1/2
Tussah Raw	132 1/2 155	3/4 a 3/11 1/2

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO EUROPE.

	1898-1900	1898-99
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	24,021	11,751
Canton	3,993	3,199
Yokohama	2	687
Total	28,016	15,537

EXPORT OF SILK FROM CHINA AND JAPAN TO AMERICA.

	1898-1900	1898-9
	bales.	bales.
Shanghai	1,705	653
Canton	1,311	904
Yokohama	105	246
Total	3,121	1,703

CAMPHOR.

HONGKONG, 4th August.—A large demand has been experienced and holders being firm prices are rising. Quotation for Formosa are \$69.00 to \$71.00, sales 500 picls.

SUGAR.

HONGKONG, 4th August.—The market is brisk and prices are firmer. Quotations are:—
Shakloong, No. 1, White... \$8.25 to \$8.30, cl.
do. " 2, White... 7.70 to 7.75 "
Shakloong, No. 1, Brown... 5.65 to 5.70 "
do. " 2, Brown... 5.50 to 5.55 "
Swatow, No. 1, White... 8.05 to 8.10 "
do. " 1, White... 7.65 to 7.70 "
Swatow, No. 1, Brown... 5.51 to 5.55 "
do. " 2, Brown... 5.36 to 5.40 "

Foochow Sugar Candy..... 11.32 to 12.00 picl.
Shakloong " 10.70 to 11.00 "

MISCELLANEOUS EXPORTS.

Per steamer *Caledonia*, sailed on the 29th July. For Bordeaux:—10 cases staraniseeds. For Milan:—30 bales raw silk. For Lyons:—483 bales raw silk and 1 case silks. For Marseilles:—926 bales raw silk, 400 bales waste silk, 6 cases silks, 100 packages tea, and 10 cases essential oil. For London:—70 bales raw silk and 1 case silks.

Per steamer *Patroclus*, sailed on the 22nd July. For London:—5,618 boxes tea, (117,978 lbs. So. Caper, 12 boxes tea, 120 lbs. Bouchong, and 461 boxes tea, particulars unknown), 295 bales waste silk, 200 bales canes, 102 bales feathers, 20 cases bristles, 116 cases bamboo-ware, 9 cases blackwoodware, 184 cases preserves, 100 cases palm leaf fans, 64 cases cigars, 25 cases aniseed oil, 3 cases private effects, 145 rolls matting, 4 drums cement, 9 packages sundries. For London option Manchester:—250 bales waste silk. For London option Hamburg:—500 boxes and 250 1/2-chests tea, 22750 lbs. 40 boxes cassia buds. For London option Antwerp option Hamburg:—18 boxes bristles. For Manchester:—113 bales waste silk, 1 case maps. For Liverpool:—10 cases cigars, 1 case machinery. For Glasgow:—4 cases private effects, 3 cases silverware, 2 cases sundries. For Antwerp:—197 bales split bamboo. For Buenos Ayres option Monte Video:—100 packages tea. For Odessa:—30 bales galangal. For Hamburg:—2,110 boxes tea, 214 boxes cassia, 15 boxes bristles, 200 bales chinaware, 286 bales canes, 134 bales galangal, 14 bales merchandise. For Beyrouth:—50 cases cassia. For Port Said:—35 cases glass-bangles, 20 cases cassia, 8 chests tea. For Suez:—200 cases cassia, 20 cases glass-bangles, 4 cases tea, 1 case roots, 15 bales galangal.

Per American ship, *P. N. Blanchard*, sailed on the 3rd August. For Baltimore:—4 bales strawbraid, 79 bales strawhats, and 21,602 rolls matting.

OPIUM.

HONGKONG, 4th Aug.—Bengal.—The market has continued active during the interval and closes firm at the following figures:—New Patna \$845, Old Patna \$880, New Benares \$897 1/2.

Malwa.—There has not been much doing in this drug during the past week, and the market closes dull at the following figures:—

Old (2 yrs.) \$770 with allow of nil to 2 1/2 catties
" (3/4 ") \$790 " " " to 2 "
" (5/7 ") \$820 " " " to 2 "
" (8/10 ") \$840 " " " 1/2 to 2 1/2 "

Persian.—This drug has been neglected during the week under review. Closing quotations are:—Only \$653 and Paper-tied \$650 to \$735 according to quality.

To-day's stocks are estimated as under:—

	New Patna	Old Patna	New Benares	Old Benares	Malwa	Persian
	1,373 chests	169 "	454 "	340 "	404 "	

COURSE OF THE HONGKONG OPIUM MARKET.

DATE.	PATNA.		BENARES.		MALWA.	
	New.	Old.	New.	Old.	New.	Old.
1899.	\$	1/6	\$	\$	\$	\$
July 29	849	880	840	—	—	—
July 30	840	880	837 1/2	—	—	—
July 31	837 1/2	880	837 1/2	—	—	—
Aug. 1	835	880	835	—	—	—
Aug. 2	835	880	835	—	—	—
Aug. 3	845	880	840	—	—	—
Aug. 4	845	880	837 1/2	—	—	—

COTTON.

HONGKONG, 4th August.—No change; superior still in demand; medium under very moderate enquiry. Stocks, about 4,000 bales.

Bombay... 15.50 to 16.00 picul.
Kurrachee... " to "
Bengal (New), Bangoon, } 16.00 to 18.00 picul.
and Dacca }
Shanghai and Japanese... 19.00 to 20.50 "
Tungchow and Ningpo... 19.00 to 20.50 "
Madras (Best)... " to "
Sales: 1,094 bales Bengal (Bangoon, New), and Dacca.

RICE.

Hongkong, 4th August.—Favourable crops have been harvested in the Canton and other districts and prices continue to decline. Quotations are—

Saigon, Ordinary.....	\$2.25 to 2.30
Round, good quality.....	2.62 to 2.65
Long.....	3.00 to 3.05
Bam, Field, mill cleaned, No. 1 ..	2.68 to 2.70
Garden, No. 1 ..	3.15 to 3.20
White.....	3.60 to 3.65
Vine Cargo	3.90 to 3.98

COALS.

Hongkong, 4th August.—No business doing. Quotations are nominal:—

Cardiff.....	\$18.00 to — ex ship, nominal
Australian.....	11.00 to — ex ship, steady
Milki Lump.....	9.00 to 10.00 nominal,
and Small.....	
Meji Lump.....	6.75 to 9.00 ex ship, quiet
Hongay double.....	12.00 to — ex godown
screened.....	
Hongay Lump.....	8.00 to 8.50 ex ship
Hongay Dust.....	5.50 to —
Brindley.....	10.50 to — ex godown

MISCELLANEOUS IMPORTS.

Hongkong, 4th August.—Among the sales reported during the week are the following:—

YARN AND PIECE GOODS:—Bombay Yarn:—1,700 bales No. 17 at \$62.50 to \$78, 750 bales No. 12 at \$68.50 to \$75.50, 1,300 bales No. 20 at \$82 to \$88. Japanese Yarn.—60 bales No. 20 at \$82. White Shirtings.—300 pieces Flower Chop at \$5, 500 pieces No. 60 at \$4.47, 400 pieces Blue Lion at \$6.24, 1,000 pieces Gold Goose at \$4.24, 1,000 pieces S. Q. at \$4.45, 250 pieces X. X. at \$5.35, 500 pieces D 70 at \$3.70, 500 pieces No. 30 at \$3.62. Grey Shirtings.—3,000 pieces 64 lb. B. Joss No. 1 at \$3. T. Cloths.—375 pieces 7 lb. Red Stag at \$2.45, 30 pieces 8 lb. Red Stag at \$2.75, 600 pieces 8 lb. Gold Dragon at \$2.70. Bengal Cotton.—203 pieces at \$16.

METALS:—Quicksilver.—300 flasks at \$155.50 30 flasks at \$155.50, 300 flasks at \$157.50.

COTTON YARN:—	per bale
Bombay—Nos. 10 to 20s.....	58.0 to 91.00
English—Nos. 16 to 24.....	101.00 to 108.00
" 22 to 24.....	106.00 to 110.00
" 28 to 32.....	114.00 to 120.00
" 36 to 42.....	125.00 to 131.00

COTTON PIECE GOODS:—	per piece
Grey Shirtings—6lbs.....	1.70 to 1.80
7lbs.....	1.90 to 2.00
8.5 lbs.....	2.35 to 3.10
9 to 10 lb.....	3.25 to 4.00
White Shirtings—54 to 56 rd.....	2.30 to 2.50
58 to 60 ..	2.70 to 3.35
64 to 66 ..	3.50 to 4.35
Fine	4.80 to 7.05
Book-folds.....	3.75 to 5.65
Victoria Lawns—12 yards ..	0.66 to 1.35
T. Cloths—6lbs. (32 in.) Ord'y.....	1.52 to 1.72
7lbs. (32 ..) ..	1.85 to 2.10
6lbs. (32 ..) Mex.....	1.62 to 1.82
7lbs. (32 ..) ..	2.10 to 2.75
8 to 8.4 oz. (36 in.) ..	2.35 to 3.20
Drills, English—40 yds., 14 to 16lbs.....	3.65 to 6.35

FANCY COTTONS:—	
Turkey Red Shirtings—1½ to 8lbs.....	1.60 to 4.75
Broadades—Dyed	3.00 —
Danmarks.....	0.12 to 0.14
Chintzes—Assorted	0.08 —
Velvets—Black, 22 in.....	0.20 to 0.40
Velvetons—18 in.....	0.18 to 0.19
Handkerchiefs—Imitation Silk.....	0.25 to 1.25

WOOLLEN:—	per yard
Spanish Stripes—Sundry chops.....	0.62 to 1.52
German	— to —
Habit, Med. and Broad Cloths.....	1.20 to 2.25
Long Ellis—Scarlet	6.10 to 9.50
Assorted	6.20 to 9.60
Amlets—Assorted	11.50 to 31.00
Lastings—20 yds., 31 inches, (Assorted) ..	8.00 to 20.00
Orleans—Plain	7.50 to 8.50
Blankets—3 to 12lb. (pair) ..	4.50 to 14.00

METALS:—	per picul
Iron—Nail Rod	5.25 to —
Square, Flat Round Bar ..	5.50 to —
Swedish Bar	6.50 to —

Small Round Rod	5.60 to —
Hoop ½ to 1½ in.....	6.25 to —
Wire 15/25	10.25 to —
Old Wire Rope	2.50 to —
Lead, L. B. & Co. and Hole Chop ..	9.00 to —
Australian.....	8.90 to —
Yellow M'tal—Muntz, 14/20 oz.....	41.50 to —
Vivian's, 14/20 oz.....	41.50 to —
Elliot's, 14/20 oz.....	41.50 to —
Composition Nails	65.00 to —
Japan Copper, Slabs	40.00 to —
Tiles	— to —
Tin	80.00 to —
per box.....	
Tin-Plates	8.75 to —
per cwt. case.....	
Steel ½ to 1	6.25 to —

SUNDRIES:—	per picul
Quicksilver	151.00 to —
per box.....	
Window Glass	5.80 to —
per 10-gal. case.....	
Kerosene Oil	2.21 —

HONGKONG, 29th July.—(From Messrs. No. 1 Murray & Co.'s Piece Goods Trade Report.)—Although our market has not been quite so active this week it is none the less strong, and a good forward business of which it is impossible to get any particulars, or even to gauge the extent, has again been done. The demand has comprised all varieties of Grey and White goods and operators seem to be getting less particular about the price and date of shipment. The comparative paucity of the sales reported is no doubt due to the shortness of available supplies, both in stock or for near arrival, and must not be attributed to any falling off in the demand. This continues as strong as ever, and, so long as the country remains in its present state of peace and comparative prosperity, there seems little doubt but that the consumptive requirements will, if anything, increase, and although it may be necessary to reach caution when the supply begins to overtake the demand there can be no necessity of doing so now, or for some months to come. That the goods are actually going into consumption is beyond question, and the experiences of this week in many quarters, where the clearances have been heavy, especially for this time of the year, is sufficient evidence, and the markets at all our dependencies are in a healthy condition. Money is more plentiful and easier than it has been for a long time, the trade has for quite a lengthy spell been undisturbed by violently fluctuating Exchanges, and there seems no reason to anticipate any changes in these respects in the near future, in fact everything points the other way. There can be little doubt of the effect that will follow the commencement of the Railway building, which may reasonably be expected very soon now, when lucrative employment will be given to thousands of labourers who are only eking out a bare existence at present and who will then surely be in a better position to enjoy for themselves and provide their families with the luxuries of foreign made articles. The possibilities of the future trade with this country are unfeignably, for, as we have frequently contended, so far, very little beyond the neighbourhood of the Treaty Ports, which, with but a few exceptions, do not in any way compare with the populous districts in the interior that are simply waiting to be brought into communication with the outer world, and this will be done so soon as the proposed big trunk lines are started. The increased trade will mean increased revenue, and there will be no difficulty then in providing sufficient security. What the home manufacturer will have to see to is that they are prepared to meet the increased demand at prices that will not invite others to enter into competition. Encouraged by the good prices that have been realised recently the Auction houses put up two or three times the usual quantity this week, with the natural consequence of a big drop in prices, but it is in no way indicative of any weakness in the market. It shows simply the disapprobation of the buyers at the attempt to rush them.

METALS, 31st July.—(From Messrs. Alex. Bielfeld & Co.'s Report.)—The home market is still about the same; but locally the market amongst the natives shows an improvement. Nailrods can be sold at from Tls. 3.60 to Tls. 3.65 a picul by the native dealers. The value of Old Iron shows an upward tendency; but at present the demand for New Iron and Nailrods predominates. We are able to report the following:—5,000 bundles Rejected Nail Rod-ends at Tls. 2.67; 4,000 do. do. at Tls. 3.00; 30 tons Scrap Iron at Tls. 1.83; 10 tons Short Hoops at Tls. 2.56; 15 tons Old Round Iron at Tls. 2.22.

EXCHANGE.

ON LONDON:—	FRIDAY, 4th August.
Telegraphic Transfer	1/11½
Bank Bills, on demand	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 30 days' sight	1/11½
Bank Bills, at 4 months' sight	1/11½
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2/0
Documentary Bills, 4 months' sight ..	2/0½
ON PARIS:—	
Bank Bills, on demand	2.49
Credits, at 4 months' sight	2.52½
ON GERMANY:—	
On demand	2.02
ON NEW YORK:—	
Bank Bills, on demand	48½
Credits, 60 days' sight	49½
ON BOMBAY:—	
Telegraphic Transfer	147½
Bank, on demand	148
ON CALCUTTA:—	
Telegraphic Transfer	147½
Bank, on demand	148
ON SHANGHAI:—	
Bank, at sight	72½
Private, 30 days' sight	73
ON YOKOHAMA:—	
On demand	4 % pm.
ON MANILA:—	
On demand	2 % pm.
ON SINGAPORE:—	
On demand	1½ % pm.
SOVEREIGNS, Bank's Buying Rate.....	10.06
GOLD LEAF, 100 fine, per tael	52.50

JOINT STOCK SHARES.

HONGKONG, 4th August.—A fair business has been transacted during the week; the chief feature of which is a further substantial rise in Banks, Lands, Docks, West Points, and Hotels.

BANKS:—Hongkong and Shanghai ruled steady during the early part of the week and small sales were effected at 343, 344, and 345 per cent. prem.; later, however, with larger buyers in the market and no shares offering, the rate quickly jumped to 360 and 368 with but very few shares changing hands. A demand for time shares at something better than equivalent rates was not met. Market closes firm at 368 cash. Latest London rate £63.10. Nationals have changed hands and been in steady demand at 324.

MARINE INSURANCES:—China Traders have been placed at \$62 and close steady at that. Unions are enquired for in small lots at \$237½, whilst a few are on offer at \$240. Cantons and the Northern Insurances continue neglected. Straits have changed hands at quotation (\$6½).

FIRE INSURANCES:—Hongkongs remain quiet with no business. Chinas have found buyers and close steady at \$88½.

SHIPPING:—Hongkong, Canton and Macao have ruled steady with small sales at \$11.75 ex dividend and close steady at that rate. Indos have improved to \$65 after sales at \$62½, \$63, and \$64. Douglasses have changed hands at \$57 and \$56½, closing with sellers at the latter rate. China and Manilas have found buyers at \$91, and China Mutuals remain unchanged and without business.

REFINERIES:—China Sugars continue quiet with only small sales at \$171½, closing quiet at that rate. Luzons are still entirely out of the market.

MINING:—A small demand for Panjoms sent the rate up to \$13 after sales had been effected at \$12 to \$12½; at time of writing shares are available at \$13. Charbonnages continue out of the market, but with buyers at \$230. Queens remain with sellers at 50 cents and no sales. Jebeus have found buyers at \$13.75, \$13.80, \$13.90, \$14, and \$14½, closing at \$14. Great Easterns have been in better favour and sales have been effected at \$2½ and \$2.75. Raubs have ruled steady with small sales and sellers at \$62 ex dividend. Olivers have advanced to \$8 for A's and \$6½ for B's on receipt of news of a crushing of 427 tons yielding 401 oz. gold.

DOCKS, WHARVES, AND GODOWNS:—Hongkong and Whampoa Docks continue on the upward course and a demand at 430, 440, and 450 per cent. prem. has not been responded to. Market closes at 460. It is understood that the Directors will recommend a dividend of 20 per cent. for the half year closed 30th June, writing off \$75,000, paying \$2,000 to contributing shareholders, placing \$100,000 to

reserve, and carrying forward some \$400,000 to new account. Kowloon Wharves have been somewhat quieter with sales at \$96½ and \$96, closing with sellers at \$93½ ex div. Wanchai are enquired for and a small business has been reported at \$42.

LANDS, HOTELS, AND BUILDINGS.—Hongkong Lands with a steady enquiry have been dealt in to some extent at from \$99 to \$110, market closing quieter with probable sellers at \$107. Hotels with an unsatisfied demand gradually rose to \$116, at which, after sales at \$114 and \$115, a few shares changed hands; at time of writing shares are still enquired for at \$116 and at equivalent rates forward. West Points have improved to \$35 ex div. after fair sales at \$32½, \$33, \$33½, and \$34. Humphreys Estates have ruled quieter with sales and sellers at \$11½ and \$11½.

COTTON MILLS.—No business to report.

MISCELLANEOUS.—Star Ferries have been negotiated at \$16½, Green Islands at \$28½ and \$28½, Watsons at \$17, Electrics at \$12½ and \$13 and \$13½. Ices at \$124, \$125, \$127, and \$128 cash, and at \$130 for November, and China Providents at \$9.75. The market generally closes steady to strong.

Closing quotations are as follows:—

COMPANY.	PAID UP.	QUOTATIONS.
Banks.		[\$585, buyers]
Hongkong & Shanghai...	\$125	368 p. ct. prem. =
China & Japan, ordy.	£4	£1.
Do. deferred	£1	£5 5s.
Nail Bank of China		
B. Shares	£8	\$24, buyers
Foun. Shares...	£8	\$24, buyers
Bell's Asbestos E. A.	£1	nominal
Campbell, Moore & Co.	\$10	\$11½, buyers
China Prov. L. & M.	\$10	\$9.75, buyers
China Sugar	\$100	\$17½, sellers
Cotton Mills—		
Ewo	Tls. 100	Tls. 65
International	Tls. 100	Tls. 70
Laou Kung Mow	Tls. 100	Tls. 7
Soychee	Tls. 500	Tls. 8.0
Yahloong	Tls. 100	Tls. 57½
Hongkong	\$100	\$80, sellers
Dairy Farm	\$6	\$5.25.
Fenwick & Co., Geo.	\$25	\$43, sellers
Green Island Cement...	\$0	\$23½, buyers
H. & C. Bakery	\$50	\$25.
Hongkong & C. Gas	£10	\$127, buyers
Hongkong Electric	\$10	\$11½, buyers
H. H. L. Tramways	\$100	\$145.
Hongkong Hotel	\$50	\$116, buyers
Hongkong Ice	\$25	\$128, buyers
H. & K. Wharf & G.	\$50	\$93½, ex div. sel. era.
Hongkong Rope	\$50	\$181, buyers
H. & W. Dock	\$125	460 p. ct. p. em.
Insurance—		[700, buyers]
Canton	\$50	\$140.
China Fire	\$20	\$88½, sales
China Traders'	\$25	\$62, sales & buyers
Hongkong Fire	\$50	\$110, sellers
North-China	£25	Tls. 195
Straits	\$20	\$64, sales & bys.
Union	\$50	\$237½, buyers
Yangtze	\$60	\$120, sellers
Land and Building—		
Hongkong Land Inv.	\$50	\$108, sellers
Humphreys Estate...	\$10	\$11½, sellers
Kowloon Land & B.	\$30	\$30, seller
West Point Building	\$30	\$35, buyers
Luzon Sugar	\$100	\$55, sellers
Mining—		
Charbonnages	Fcs. 250	\$230, buyers
Gr. Estm. & Odenia	\$	\$27½, buyers
Do. Preference...	\$	\$80, sellers
Jebeu	\$	\$14, buyers
Queen's Mines Ltd.	25c	50 cents, sellers
Oliver's Mines, A.	\$5	\$3.
Do. B.	\$4	\$1½, sellers
Punjom	\$6	\$13, sellers
Do. Preference...	\$1	\$2.
Ranhs	15s 10d	\$61½, ex div
New Amoy Dock	\$6½	\$16, buyers
Steamship Coys.—		
China and Manila...	\$50	\$91, sales
China Mutual Pref.	£10	£9.15s, buyers
China Ordinary	£10	£6, 0s, buyers
Do.	£5	£3, 0s, buyers
Douglas Steamship	\$50	\$6½, sellers
H. Canton and M.	\$15	\$31½, ex div. buy.
Indo-China S. N. ...	£10	\$65, buyers
Star Ferry	7½	\$6½, buyers
Tecrau Planting Co.	\$5	\$5, sellers
Do.	\$3	\$3, sellers
United Asbestos	\$2	\$2½, buyers
Do.	\$	\$1, nominal
Wanchai Warehouse...	\$37½	4, sales & bys.
Watson & Co., A. S.	\$10	\$17.

J. Y. V. VERNON, Broker.

SHANGHAI, 31st August.—(From Messrs. J. P. Bisset & Co.'s Report).—The market was buoyant during the week, and we note an advance in Hongkong and Shanghai Bank, Indo-China, Wharf, Langkat, and other shares. Banks.—Hongkong and Shanghai Banking Corporation.—The market has been exceedingly strong in Hongkong, largely on account of Chinese buyers, but not much business was done here on account of the absence of sellers. A cash sale was made on the 25th at 33½ per cent. premium, and nothing more was reported until the 28th, when shares were sold to Hongkong at 34½ per cent. premium, with exchange 1¼, equal to 337½ per cent. premium, with exchange 7½. Marine Insurance.—Yangtze Insurance shares were sold here at 115, and a sale in Hongkong at 120 is reported. North China Insurance shares are offering at Tls. 195. Fire Insurance.—No local business reported. Shipping.—Business has been done to a fair extent in Indo-China S. S. shares at Tls. 45 to Tls. 48½ cash and Tls. 48½ for 30th September. Douglas S. S. shares are offering at \$6½. Sugars.—Perak Sugar Cultivation shares changed hands at Tls. 57½ to Tls. 60. Docks, Wharves & Godowns.—Boyd & Co. shares were sold at Tls. 188½. S. C. Farnham & Co. shares were placed at Tls. 200 and Tls. 201½. Shanghai Dock Preference shares were sold at Tls. 108. Ordinary shares are offering at Tls. 101. Considerable business was done in Shanghai and Hongkong Wharf shares at Tls. 210/220 cash, Tls. 212½/215 for August, Tls. 217½ for September, Tls. 215 for October, and Tls. 225 for December. Lands.—Shanghai Land Investment shares are offering at Tls. 82. Industrial.—Shanghai Gas shares have changed hands at Tls. 195. Ewo Cotton Mill shares were sold at Tls. 65 and are wanted. Internationals were sold at Tls. 70, and Yah Loongs at Tls. 55/57½. Shanghai Ice shares were placed at Tls. 36. The proposed increase of the Capital was approved at the extraordinary meeting of shareholders held on the 28th instant. American Cigarette new shares were sold at Tls. 50. Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—The annual general meeting of shareholders is convened for the 9th August. A resolution to place the Co. in Liquidation will be submitted to the meeting. Tugs and Cargo Boats.—Co-operative Cargo Boat Co. shares changed hands at Tls. 167½. Interim dividends have been declared by the Shanghai and Co-operative Cargo Boat Companies of 7 per cent. and 6 per cent. respectively, payable on the 3rd August. Miscellaneous.—Shanghai Waterworks shares are offering at Tls. 216. Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco shares changed hands at Tls. 50. A large business was done in Shanghai-Langkat Tobacco shares at Tls. 112½ to \$175 cash, Tls. 175 for August, Tls. 183/180 for September, and Tls. 180 for October. We quote Tls. 165 as the closing cash rate. A sale of Shanghai Horse Bazaar shares was made at Tls. 75. Loans.—Chinese Imperial Government E Loan Bonds were placed at Tls. 250 plus the accrued interest.

Quotations are:—

BANKS.

Hongkong and Shanghai.—\$546.87.
Bank of China and Japan, Ltd.—£10.0.
Do. ordinary.—£5.5.0.
National Bank of China, Ltd.—\$24.00.

COTTON MILLS.

Ewo Cotton Spinning & W. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 65.00.
Hongkong Cotton S. W. & D. Co.—\$80.00.
International Cotton Man. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 70.00.
Laou-kung-mow Cotton Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75.00.
Soy Chee Cotton Spinning Co., Ltd.—Tls. 350.00.

DOCKS, WHARVES, & CO.

Boyd & Co., Ltd., Founders.—Nominal.
Boyd & Co., Limited.—Tls. 188.50.
Hongkong & Kowloon Wharf Company.—\$96½.
Hongkong and Whampoa Dock Co., Ltd.—\$625.00.
S. C. Farnham & Co.—Tls. 201.50.
Shanghai Engineering S. & D. Co.—Tls. 101.0.
Shanghai & Hongkew Wharf Co.—Tls. 220.00.

INSURANCES.

Canton Insurance Office, Ltd.—\$140.00.
China Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$89.00.
China Traders' Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$62.00.
Hongkong Fire Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$310.00.
North China Insurance Co., Ltd.—Tls. 195.00.
Straits Insurance Co., Ltd.—\$6.00.
Union Insurance Society of Canton, Ltd.—\$235.
Yangtze Insurance Assn., Ltd.—\$115.00.

LANDS.

Hongkong Land Invest. & A. Co., Ltd.—\$101.
Humphreys Estate & Finance Co., Ltd.—\$11.50.
Shanghai Land Invest. Co. (fully pd.)—Tls. 82.00.

MINING.

Punjom Mining Co., Ltd.—\$14.50.
Punjom Mining Co., Ltd., pref. shares.—\$25.00.

Raub Australian Gold Mining Co., Ltd.—\$63.50.
Sheridan Consolidated Co.—Tls. 4.00.

SHIPPING.

China Mutual preference.—Tls. 72.00.
Do. ordinary, £5 paid.—Tls. 80.00.
Co-operative Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 167.60.
Douglas Steamship Co., Ltd.—\$57.00.
Hongkong, Canton and Macao.—\$51.50.
Indo-China Steam N. Co., Ltd.—Tls. 45.50.
Shanghai Cargo Boat Co.—Tls. 175.00.
Shanghai Tugboat Co., Ltd.—Tls. 225.00.
Taku Tug & Lighter Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75.00.

SUGAR.

China Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$174.00.
Luzon Sugar Refining Co., Ltd.—\$67.00.
Perak Sugar Cultivation Co., Ltd.—Tls. 40.00.

MISCELLANEOUS.

American Cigarette Co.—Tls. 67.00.
Central Stores, Ltd.—\$11.0.
China Flour Mills Co.—Tls. 30.00.
Hall & Holtz, Ltd.—\$35.00.
Llewellyn & Co., J., Limited.—\$15.00.
Major Brothers, Limited.—Tls. 40.00.
Shanghai Feather Cleaning Co.—Tls. 400.00.
Shanghai Gas Co.—\$195.00.
Shanghai Horse Bazaar Co., Ltd.—Tls. 75.00.
Shanghai Ice, Cold Storage, & Refrigeration Co., Ltd.—Tls. 36.00.
Shanghai Langkat Tobacco Co., Ltd.—Tls. 175.
Shanghai Rice Mills Co.—Tls. 25.00.
Shanghai-Sumatra Tobacco Co.—Tls. 60.00.
Shanghai Waterworks Co., Ltd.—Tls. 266.00.
Watson Co., A. S. Limited.—\$18.00.

TONNAGE.

HONGKONG, 4th Aug. st.—Since last report there has been very little demand for tonnage, and freights in all directions have a downward tendency. From Saigon to this, 17 cents per picul was paid last week, but at present there is no demand; to one port north coast Java, 24 cents per picul is offered. Bangkok to this, 18 and 19 cents per picul. Newchwang to Canton, 27 cents per picul might be obtained for end of the month loading. Moji to Hongkong, boats are wanted at \$2 per ton; to Singapore, no demand. Sailing tonnage.—There is an enquiry for vessels to load at Celebes for Hongkong. Hence to New York, 16s. per ton of 4 cubic feet is offered for September loading.

There are two vessels disengaged in port registering 1,244 tons.

The following are the settlements:—

Taicheong—German steamer, 939 tons, Hongay to Swatow, \$1.80 per ton.
Germania—German steamer, 1,775 tons, Hongay to Hongkong \$1.50 per ton.
Petrarch—German steamer, 1,250 tons, Saigon to Sourabaya, 24 cents per picul; if two ports north coast Java to Hongkong, private terms.
Ingraban—German steamer, 894 tons, Sourabaya to Hongkong, private terms.
Trym—Norwegian steamer, 710 tons, monthly, 6 months, \$5.50 per month.

VESSELS ON THE BERTH.

FOR LONDON.—Dardanus (str.), Coromandel (str.), Manila (str.), Tosa Maru (str.), Socotra (str.).
FOR BREMEN.—Prinz Heinrich (str.), Hatachi Maru (str.).
FOR MARSEILLES.—Socotra (str.), Yarra (str.), Chingo (str.), Tosa Maru (str.), Hatachi Maru (str.).
FOR HAVRE AND HAMBURG.—Silentia (str.), Alesia (str.), Wittenberg (str.), Saxonia (str.).
FOR SAN FRANCISCO.—City of Rio de Janeiro (str.), Nippon Maru (str.), Carlisle City (str.), Coptic (str.).
FOR VANCOUVER.—Empress of China (str.).
FOR VICTORIA, B.C. VIA SHANGHAI.—Glenogle (str.).
FOR PORTLAND, O.—Lennox (str.).
FOR NEW YORK.—Pisa (str.), Gharas (str.), Governor Robie, Josephus, St. James, Indralena (str.) Challenger.
FOR AUSTRALIA.—Changsha (str.), Kangas Maru (str.).
FOR SINGAPORE AND CALCUTTA.—Kumang (str.).
FOR BOMBAY AND COLOMBO.—Kagoshima Maru (str.).
FOR VICTORIA AND SEATTLE.—Idzumi Maru (str.).
FOR GENOA VIA BOMBAY.—Domenico Baldi (str.).

SHIPPING.

ARRIVALS AND DEPARTURES SINCE LAST MAIL.

HONGKONG.

ARRIVALS.

- July—
 29, Glenfalloch, British str., from Straits.
 29, Kwangse, British str., from Wuhu.
 29, Hahei, French str., from Haiphong.
 29, Clara, German str., from Pakhoi.
 29, Wongkot, British str., from Bangkok.
 29, Benverlooh, British str., from Moji.
 29, P. C. C. Kiao, British str., from Bangkok.
 29, Loyal, German str., from Canton.
 29, Daphne, German str., from Vladivostok.
 29, Loongsang, British str., from Taku.
 30, Chingwo, British str., from London.
 30, Domenico Baldino, Ital. str., from Genoa.
 30, Ernest Simons, French str., from M'seilles.
 30, Germania, German str., from Saigon.
 30, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., from K'notzu.
 30, Nanchang, British str., from Chefoo.
 30, Telemachus, British str., from Penang.
 30, Thales, British str., from Coast Ports.
 30, Wingsang, British str., from Shanghai.
 30, Lyeemoon, German str., from Canton.
 30, Breid, Norwegian str., from Singapore.
 31, Bygdo, Norwegian str., from Chefoo.
 31, Elze, German str., from Bangkok.
 31, Miike Maru, Jap. str., from Singapore.
 31, Sandakan, German str., from Sandakan.
 31, Fushun, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 31, Kumsang, British str., from Calcutta.
 31, Triumph, German str., from Hoihow.

- August—
 1, Empress of China, Brit. str., from Vancouver.
 1, Hangchow, British str., from Canton.
 1, Chiyuen, Chinese str., from Canton.
 1, Diomed, British str., from Shanghai.
 1, Haiching, British str., from Swatow.
 1, Kanagawa Maru, Jap. str., from London.
 1, Ellen Rickmers, German str., from Moji.
 1, Alesia, German str., from Hamburg.
 2, Quarta, German str., from Saigon.
 2, Kwangping, Chinese str., from Canton.
 2, Kashing, British str., from Canton.
 2, Hue, French str., from Haiphong.
 2, Chunsang, British str., from Mororan.
 2, Phra Nang, British str., from Bangkok.
 2, Loongmoon, German str., from Shanghai.
 2, Rohilla, British str., from Yokohama.
 2, Petrarch, German str., from Sourabaya.
 2, Nippon Maru, Jap. str., from S. F.isco.
 2, Shihan, British str., from Saigon.
 3, Glenogle, British str., from Tacoma.
 3, Emerald, British str., from Manila.
 3, Chwushan, British str., from Bangkok.
 3, Hoihao, French str., from Pakhoi.
 3, Tam ui, British str., from Chefoo.
 3, Taisang, British str., from Shanghai.
 3, Kiangnan, Chinese str., from Chefoo.
 3, Loongsang, British str., from Canton.
 3, Silesia, German str., from Kobe.
 3, Coromandel, British str., from Shanghai.
 4, Loosok, British str., from Bangkok.
 4, Nanchang, British str., from Canton.
 4, Chusan, British str., from Bombay.
 4, Nanyang, German str., from Swatow.
 4, Kyoto Maru, Japanese str., from Moji.
 4, Kwanglee, Chinese str., from Shanghai.
 4, Kaidaru Maru, Jap. str., from Amoy.

DEPARTURES.

- July—
 29, Yorktown, American gunboat, for Manila.
 29, Caledonien, French steamer, for Europe.
 29, Tacoma, British str., for Tacoma.
 29, Hongkong, French str., for Haiphong.
 29, Ariake Maru, Jap. str., for Kutchinotzu.
 29, Marie Jebsen, German str., for Bangkok.
 29, Kwangse, British str., for Canton.
 29, Haiman, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Derawongse, British str., for Swatow.
 29, Formosa, British str., for Shanghai.
 29, Kashing, British str., for Canton.
 30, Deuteros, German str., for Saigon.
 30, Loyal, German str., for Hongay.
 30, Tamsui Maru, Jap. str., for Swatow.
 30, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 30, G. L. Tobey, Amr. bark, for New York.
 30, Nanchang, British str., for Canton.
 30, Loongsang, British str., for Canton.
 30, Baling, French str., for Hoihow.
 30, Glenfield, British bark, for Rajang.
 30, Ernest Simons, French str., for Shanghai.
 30, Siantor, British str., for Shanghai.
 31, Fategami Maru, Japanese str., for Moji.
 31, Lyeemoon, German str., for Shanghai.
 31, Bygdo, Norwegian str., for Canton.
 31, Wingsang, British str., for Canton.

August—

- 1, Kachidate Maru, Jap. str., for K'notzu.
 1, Glenfalloch, British str., for Amoy.
 1, Chingwo, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Yangtze, British str., for New York.
 1, Clara, German str., for Hoihow.
 1, Telemachus, British str., for Amoy.
 1, Progress, German str., for Touron.
 1, Glengarry, British str., for Shanghai.
 1, Hailoong, British str., for Swatow.
 1, Diamante, British str., for Manila.
 2, Carmarthenshire, Brit. str., for San Diego.
 2, Holstein, German str., for Saigon.
 2, Hangchow, British str., for Shanghai.
 2, Kong Beng, British str., for Saigon.
 2, Han-i, French str., for Hoihow.
 2, Diomed, British str., for London.
 2, Chiyuen, Chinese str., for Shanghai.
 2, Lightning, British str., for Calcutta.
 2, Jean Bart, French cruiser, for Foochow.
 2, Kashing, British str., for Shanghai.
 3, Triumph, German str., for Hoihow.
 3, P. N. Blanchard, Amr. ship, for Baltimore.
 3, Drumburton, British sh., for Astoria.
 3, Alesia, German str., for Shanghai.
 3, Haiching, British str., for Swatow.
 3, Kanagawa Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 3, Loongmoon, German str., for Canton.
 3, Sendai Maru, Japanese str., for Swatow.
 3, Tamsui, British str., for Canton.
 3, Wingsang, British str., for Swatow.
 3, Miike Maru, Japanese str., for Kobe.
 4, Kwangping, Chinese str., for Tientsin.
 4, Chowtai, British str., for Bangkok.
 4, Kwangse, British str., for Shanghai.
 4, Taisang, British str., for Canton.

PASSENGERS LIST.

ARRIVED.

Per *Sendai Maru*, from Vladivostok, &c., Mr. and Mrs. Monason, Messrs. Geo. Osbone and P. Cujasaki.

Per *Caledonien*, for Hongkong, from Shanghai. Mrs. Dalton, Messrs. Niederbin, Deacon, J. Olsa, Noiasse da Silva, Mr. and Mrs. Nathan Bentz; from Japan. Capt. Dayson, Major and Mrs. St. John, Mrs. Morris, Messrs. Low, Raymond, and Fernandez, Mrs. Bass, Mrs. Inouye, Messrs. Randou, C. Hoida, and Josef; for Saigon, from Shanghai, Mr. Mudge; from Japan, Messrs. Phabigamall, Sakaki, Sakurai, Kurihara, Hathermann, Tharamall, and K. Marindass; for Colombo, from Shanghai, Mrs. P. Bauin; and Mr. Celestin; for Bombay, Mr. David; for Marseilles, Mr. de Bonilla Martel, Miss de Bonilla Martel, Messrs. Blom, Puthod, Parisi, Cohard, Mathian, and F. Bucholtz, Mr. and Mrs. Rapatel and daughter; for Marseilles, from Japan, Mr. Tremoulet, Mrs. Spillick, Mr. Tawara, Miss Koda, Messrs. Ofugi, Matsumara, E. Aoyagi, Capt. Wethe, Messrs. H. B. Moss, E. Lunkien, Tsuchida, Togaschi, Seki, G. Bigot and son, Mrs. Bigot, Messrs. Th. Bobaume, Ch. Van Dongen, Van Duyvenbode, Matsumoto, and Baoufful.

Per *Daphne*, from Vladivostok, &c., Mr. T. Andersen.

Per *Wingsang*, from Shanghai, Mrs. Moss and child, Mr. Veitch.

Per *Thales*, from Coast Ports, Mr. and Mrs. Manzano, Mrs. and 2 Misses and Master Tambunting.

Per *Loongsang*, from Taku, Mr. W. Blayney.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Hongkong, from Marseilles, Mr. H. W. Hine, Mr. and Mrs. Philippine and baby, Miss Marie Marthe, Mr. and Mrs. Boujeant and 2 children; from Colombo, Mrs. Blumenthal and Rev. Pere Hervagault; from Calcutta, Mrs. Mary Rottemburg, Mrs. Mary Davidson, and Mrs. Gustave Katz; from Saigon, Messrs. Bourdonnel and de Prosa; for Shanghai, from Marseilles, Mr. de Jose, Mr. and Mrs. R. Willis, Mr. E. C. Wilton, Mr. and Mrs. Guerin, Mrs. Christensen, Mrs. Petersen, and Mr. John Bromley; from Saigon, Mrs. Oulgate; for Nagasaki, from Singapore, Mrs. Amasu, Mrs. Kagiharabaya, Mrs. Yasaki Yen; for Kobe, from Singapore, Mr. E. A. Apear, Mrs. S. Hasimoto, and Mr. Forey; for Yokohama, from Marseilles, Mr. S. Blad, and Mrs. Tru Kaji; from Singapore, Mr. Martin.

Per *Sandakan*, from Sandakan, Messrs. G. Breitenbach and Proust.

Per *Fushun*, from Shanghai, Mr. Rasmussen.

Per *Kumsang*, from Calcutta, &c., Captain Kemp, Sergt. Gourley, Messrs. Clander Reina, Moreley, P. Gongue, Miss Yongen, and Mrs. J. Montigu.

Per *Empress of China*, for Hongkong, from Vancouver, Mr. H. B. Carter; from Yokohama, Lieut. Longfield, Mr. and Mrs. L. R. Tuttee, Mr. J. C. Stagg, Lieut. C. Clark, Mr. W. Harden, Mr. H. Elmer, Lieut. and Mrs. Bagnall Wild and Capt. Des Veaux; from Kobe, Capt. Eutrician and Mr. A. Kuhn; from Nagasaki, Mr. A. J. Meldrum.

Per *Haiching*, from Swatow, Messrs. Orang, San-hin, Cho, Jaw, and Chun Tak.

Per *Phra Nang*, from Bangkok, Mr. and Mrs. Carrington, and Mr. Barodale.

Per *Loongmoon*, from Shanghai, Mrs. T. Goimault.

Per *Rohilla*, from Yokohama, for Hongkong, Mr. J. Molley; for Singapore, Capt. Simmonds, and Mr. A. M. Marshall; for Colombo, Messrs. H. Lampard and Wissoksky; for Marseilles, Mr. C. Allen; from Kobe, for Hongkong, Mr. Vichy.

Per *Nippon Maru*, from San Francisco, for Hongkong, Mrs. T. Fuller, Messrs. J. L. Logan, G. T. Porter, J. L. Tillach, J. H. Hallo, and M. Schmeer.

Per *Esmeralda*, from Manila, Mrs. P. Elliot, Mrs. Schuster, Drs. Beebe, Adolf Raylag, and Von Widerkind, Capt. A. Morgan, Lieuts. Hanans and Buchart, Messrs. Bonareaux, Jupp, Hughes, and Murray.

Per *Chusan*, for Hongkong, from London, Messrs. J. O'Neill and T. Neave; from Marseilles, Mr. Thos. Brockett and Rev. H. Stevens; from Bombay, Messrs. Rohimbhoy and Bhesania; from Colombo, Capt. G. de Barry; from Singapore, Messrs. Palin, Amos, and Demme; for Shanghai, from London, Messrs. H. Dorrell, H. Dunseth; from Colombo, Mr. F. P. Smith; for Yokohama, from London, Mrs. Talbot and 2 children, and Mr. E. Gilpen; from Colombo, Lieut. A. Lee.

DEPARTED

Per *Kasuga Maru*, for Nagasaki, Messrs. J. Inouye, J. Suzuki, M. Finnegan, J. Dunlavy, Mr. and Mrs. Patience, Miss Hancock, Miss N. Johnstone, Messrs. P. B. Turnbull, R. M. K. Turnbull, H. Andreas, and R. C. Dray.

Per *Kinshiu Maru*, for Kobe, Messrs. E. M. Williams, Kermehand, and Macara.

Per *Kamakura Maru*, for Singapore, Mrs. P. Going, Mr. R. Hodgart, Mrs. R. M. Rumsey, and Mr. A. Sutherland.

Per *Yawata Maru*, for Thursday Island, &c., Miss J. Grace, Mr. and Mrs. Todd, Miss M. Southey, Mrs. Bell, Messrs. R. P. Saunders, B. Henderson, Miss Wilson, Messrs. W. Wilson, C. Wilson, and Herbert Wilson, Miss Farlay, Messrs. Spencer, Britton, and Geo. Osborne.

Per *Caledonien*, for Singapore, Mr. V. D. Parsons and Dr. G. Francke; for Marseilles, Mr. and Mrs. F. Jose, Dr. A. J. G. Pereira, Mrs. Pereira and 2 daughters, Messrs. F. X. Pereira, Kehren, H. Brown and Mr. and Mrs. R. S. Mellada.

Per *Formosa*, for Shanghai, from Singapore, Mr. G. McBain; from Hongkong, Mr. A. Colaco.

Per *Ernest Simons*, for Shanghai, Mrs. B. Bass, Misses E. A. Carion, and Mr. Noel; for Nagasaki, Messrs. R. Lincoln, F. Gibson, H. Hall, and J. Hold; for Kobe, Capt. H. M. Rickard, Messrs. J. P. Vasco and J. Shand; for Yokohama, Major and Mrs. Waudby Griffin, and Mrs. E. Malcolm.

Per *Diamante*, for Manila, Messrs. E. Schow, W. Bruchert, A. B. Wilson, Mrs. Barrett, Mrs. Glenn, Mrs. Leon, Miss Rozario, Mrs. and 2 Misses Tambunting, Master Tambunting, Mr. and Mrs. J. M. y Mendez, Mrs. Coates and 2 children, Messrs. L. Osorio, J. M. Bazot, F. Rodriguez, A. Calleja, H. del Alamo, L. C. Passano, C. A. Clark, Dalton, C. Klinck, F. Lake, B. Rothstein, R. Bolozijs, F. Rortin, and R. Bevan.

Per *Kanagawa Maru*, for Kobe, Messrs. M. Inouye, W. Moss, R. Docking, Capt. J. Ferguson, Capt. G. Anderson, Dr. T. Senga, Messrs. H. Paul, D. Gargan, Y. Kabarak, K. Ota, G. Jones, Mrs. S. Choh and 2 children, Miss Lewis, Mrs. Siegel, and Major Shibu.

Per *Sendai Maru*, for Swatow, &c., Mr. W. Rollinson.

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